

# SMOKE SIGNALS

*For Radio Amateurs • By Radio Amateurs*

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## Aviator/Ham installed in Hall of Fame

By Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO

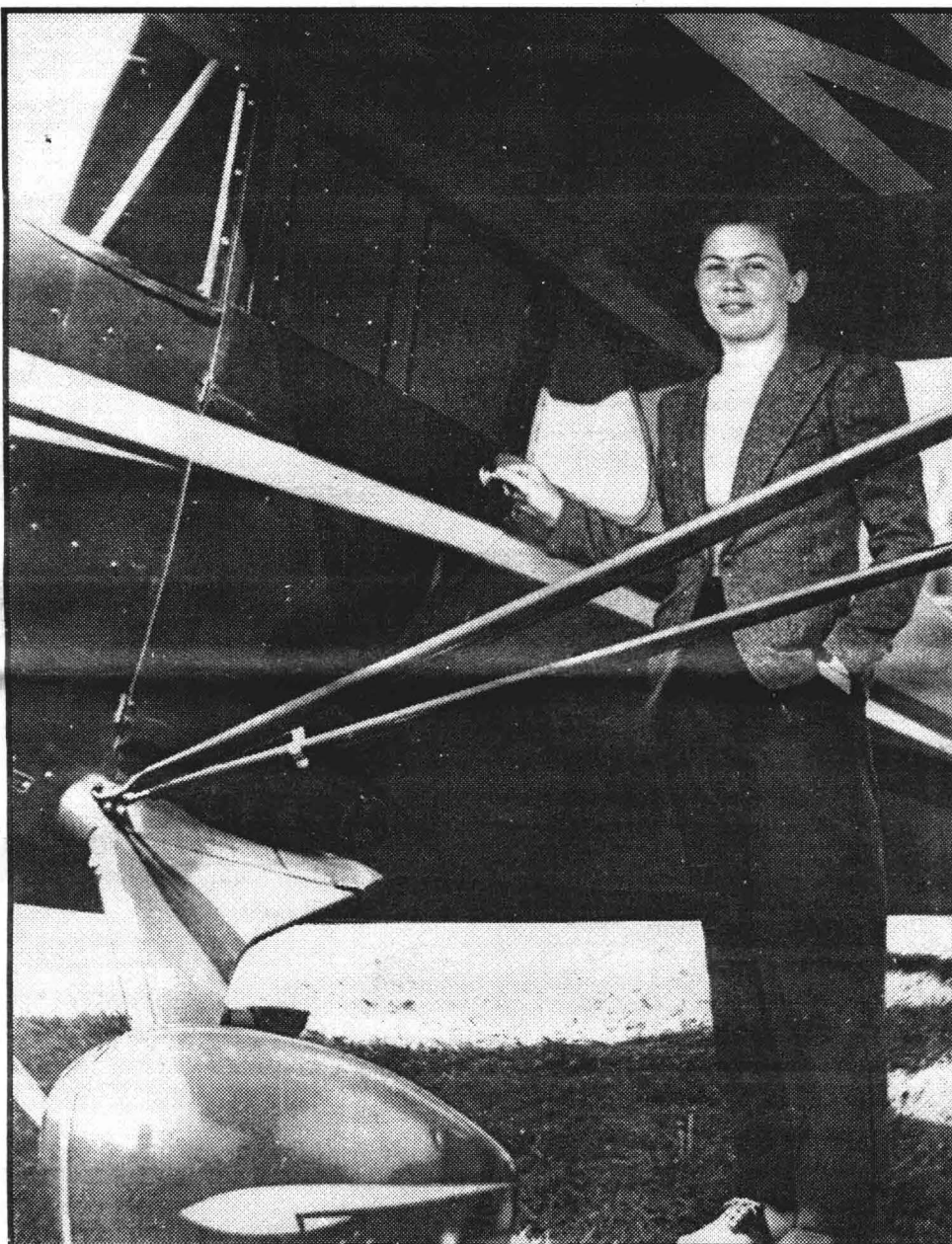
On May 14th, QCWA Chapter 162 member Fern Fisher, W9LCJ was inducted into the Southeast Wisconsin Aviation Hall of Fame in Racine, Wisconsin. The Hall of Fame program recognizes the outstanding achievements of aviation leaders in their communities and within the Experimental Aircraft Association. Fern will join fellow inductees Samuel C. Johnson, Chairman of SC Johnson and John E. Sullivan, former manager of the Racine Commercial Airport during the gala celebration induction at the Racine Marriott Hotel.

These 1999 inductees have all contributed significantly to the community through their efforts in building Southeast Wisconsin transportation capabilities as they helped guide the development of Racine's Batten Field. The 450-acre Batten Field, according to Keith Gerrard, deputy director of the Bureau of Aeronautics in Madison, is the busiest private airport in the United States and serves as a model for airport privatization nationwide.

Fern, a licensed Aviation Flight Instructor and Licensed Aircraft Mechanic during her younger years, was the second pilot to land at Batten International Airport (then known as Horlick Field). Fern said, "I was around airplanes all my life. The airport was my first love." And as the years progressed she became the airport's jack-of-all-trades, retiring at the age of 75 after a 40-year love affair.

Fern's exposure to Ham Radio came after a chance meeting with a member of the Amateur fraternity, Stanley D. Fisher, W9EQ, who was a Broadcast Engineer, Flight Instructor, Aviation Radio Technician and FAA designated Technician.

Their initial meeting occurred at an air show held in Racine. The airport manager



This is Fern Fisher in 1938, in her pre-ham radio days. The aircraft is a Cub Coup J-4.

Photo via Larry McCalvy/WA9JMO

asked Fern to take care of a popcorn machine during the event. The rented and delivered machine was discovered not to be working after the delivery folks had departed, and the popcorn sat in its designated popping container unpopped. The manager rounded up Stan, who was introduced as the man to fix the problem. With a meter, a soldering iron, and a few wiring changes the machine was soon fixed. Stan had saved the day, and the popcorn sales were great.

Fern and Stan were married two years after the popcorn encounter. Stan was an electronic genius, he was always busy with tubes, dials, antennas and strange squawks coming out of boxes of assorted sizes, as well as always testing something or listening to the clack-clack of teletype machines, or having someone at the door with more strange boxes that needed fixing. Fern decided it was time to learn something about the hobby in order to understand the strange lingo engaged in by the folks visiting their home. They also needed to have something to talk about over the dinner table.

The necessary books were purchased and the study sessions started. Fern started helping Stan with his heavy electronic repair load, she learned how all the various parts worked, how to use test equipment, how to grind crystals, and how to solder.

Stan was the Deputy for Communication in the Wisconsin Wing, Civil Air Patrol. Fern joined and moved up the ranks to Lieutenant Colonel and the assignment as Assistant Wing Deputy for Communication for the Wisconsin Wing. Fern maintained the FCC CAP radio station

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## Texas antenna bill signed into law; request made for Wisconsin codification of PRB-1

Months of hard work by amateurs in the Lone Star State paid off Monday when Texas Gov George W. Bush signed into law a bill to incorporate the limited federal preemption, PRB-1, into state law.

The new law, which becomes effective upon the Governor's signature, amends the Local Government Code in Texas to prevent local jurisdictions from enacting or enforcing ordinances that fail to comply with PRB-1. The bill further would require ordinances dealing with Amateur Radio antenna placement, screening, or height based on health, safety or aesthetics to "reasonably accommodate amateur communications" and "represent the minimal practicable regulation to accomplish the municipality's or county's legitimate purpose."

Because of an amendment added during the legislative process, the new Texas

law does not prohibit localities from taking action to protect historic or architectural districts.

HB 1345 was introduced in March by State Rep Patricia Gray at the request of Karl Silverman, NOWWK, president of the Johnson Space Center Amateur Radio Club. Silverman became the prime mover behind HB 1345, often exhorting Texas hams via e-mail to appear for hearings or to write lawmakers and the governor to support the measure.

Silverman was ecstatic about the outcome. "The most difficult part of the legislative process was the coordination, as the process went much faster than anyone could have possibly anticipated," he said, conceding some difficulty in getting hams to write in support. "People just don't

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# WHAT'S HAPPENING

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Edited by Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901 • kebnetter@palacenet.net

## Swapfests and Other Social Events

FRIDAY-SATURDAY, JUNE 4-5, 1999 ARRL Hamfest, 21 & Iowa state convention, South Sioux City NE. Contact: Mike Nickolaus, NF0N, 316 East 32nd St., South Sioux City, NE 68776. (402) 494-6070. e-mail nfon@avalone.net

SUNDAY, JUNE 6, 1999. The Central Wisconsin Radio Amateurs Swapfest (Stevens Point area) HAS BEEN CANCELED. Amateur radio exams will be given on June 5. (see testpoint)

SUNDAY, JUNE 13, 1999. Six Meter Club of Chicago Hamfest, DuPage County Fairgrounds, Wheaton, IL. Contact: (708)-442-4961.

SATURDAY, JULY 10, 1999. South Milwaukee Amateur Radio Club Swapfest, American Legion Park, Shepard Avenue, South Milwaukee, WI. Contact: South Milwaukee ARC, P.O. Box 102, South Milwaukee, WI 53172. (414) 762-3235.

SATURDAY, JULY 10, 1999. Eau Claire ARC Hamfest and Computer Expo., Eau Claire County Exposition Center, Eau Claire, WI. Contact: Jim Staats, KG9MV, (715) 838-9108. http://www.ecarc.org

SATURDAY, JULY 10, 1999. PHD ARA Hamfest, Kansas City, MO. Contact: (816) 436-0069. e-mail wa0clr@worldnet.att.net

SUNDAY, JULY 11, 1999. Kankakee Area Radio Society Hamfest, Will County Fairgrounds, Peotone, IL.

Contact Billie Kerouac, KF9IF (815) 939-7548. http://www.geocities.com/capecanaveral/hanger/5711

SUNDAY, JULY 18, 1999. Fox River Radio League Hamfest, Sugar Grove, IL. Contact: http://www.frrk.org/hamfest.html

SUNDAY, JULY 25, 1999. Racine, WI. The Racine Megacycle Club, Amateur Radio & Computer Show. Contact:

e-mail: w9udu@wi.net  
voice mail: (414) 552-6RMC  
web page: http://www2.wi.net/~hamradio/

SATURDAY, AUGUST 14, 1999. Circus City Swapfest, Baraboo, WI. Contact: Steve Schulze, N9UDO, (608) 356-2313/356-4777 or Bill Klinkner, N9KXX, (608) 643-6908/643-6453. e-mail: http://www.thelox.com/~sschulze/hamfest.html

SUNDAY, AUGUST 29, 1999. Woodstock Hamfest, McHenry County Fairgrounds, Woodstock, IL. Contact: (708) 944-0500. e-mail TCRG@Quality-Enterprises.com

SATURDAY-SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18-19, 1999. Peoria Superfest, Exposition Gardens, Peoria, IL. Contact: (309) 692-FEST(3378) e-mail www.w9uvi.org

SATURDAY, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25-26, 1999. RADIO EXPO 99, Lake County Fairgrounds, Grayslake, IL. Contact: (708) 457-0966. http://www.chicagomfclub.org

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1999. Racine Megacycle Club Amateur Radio & Computer Auction. Knights of Columbus Hall, 13249 Washington Ave., Racine, WI. www2.wi.net/~hamradio/auction.html

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1999. HAMFEST Minnesota & Computer Expo. St. Paul, MN. contact: (612) 535-0637. http://www.hamfestmn.org

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8, 2000. 28th Midwinter Swapfest, Waukesha County Expo Center Forum, Waukesha, WI. Contact: WARAC Swapfest, PO Box 1072, Milwaukee, WI 53201, or call Phil, W9NAW (414) 425-3649.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 9, 2000. South Bend Hamfest, South Bend, IN. Contact: Michiana Valley Hamfest Association, 21970 Kern Road, South Bend 46614.

See also the back page and flyer ads for additional information on many of these events.

Let us know of your dates as soon as you know them. We will list them and perhaps help avoid conflicts with other events.

As a service to our readers, this section of Badger State Smoke Signals is available without charge to list your upcoming Swapfest, Hamfest, dinner, picnic, party or other event of interest to Radio Amateurs in Wisconsin and nearby areas. Send information on your event to Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901. In addition, space is available at attractive rates on our advertising pages. For information on rates and requirements for our advertising pages, please contact K9ZZ or K9EN.



## CLUB MEETINGS

Due to space limitations, we cannot always carry the full listing of Wisconsin and area club meetings. Please see the September 1998 meetings column for the latest complete listing. The following changes have been reported to BSSS since that listing.

### EAU CLAIRE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

2nd Tuesday - 7:30 PM Eau Claire, Parks & Recreation, 1300 First Ave, Eau Claire, WI 54703. All hams and guests welcome. Wide area coverage repeater KB9RRA 146.910 Mhz. For more info: Jim Staats KG9MV 715-838-9108 kg9mv@ecol.net

### WAUPACA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

"CQ First Tue." - A social gathering and Dutch treat luncheon at the King's Table in King, WI, on Highway QQ just south of highways 10 and 54 on the west side of Waupaca. Gather at 11:00 - 11:30. Order at noon. Club business transacted.

"CQ Third Fri." A social gathering and Dutch treat dinner, semi-formal, "OM & XYL" at one of the better supper clubs in the area. Check Waupaca 147.390 nets at 8:00 a.m. or 8:50 p.m. for that month's meeting place.

### QCWA - WISCONSIN CHAPTER #55

Contact Erwin Froelich, W9RZW, Treasurer, W3449 Badger Road, Pine River WI 54965. For information about meeting dates or joining QCWA Chapter #55. The Wisconsin Chapter holds Spring and Fall dinner meetings on the first Saturday of June and October.

### RADIO AMATEURS OF WISCONSIN (R.A.W.) OSHKOSH, WI

R.A.W. is a family oriented club, in which most of its activities revolve around family doings and outings. Meetings are on the 3rd saturday of each month at various locations. If you are a Ham or are interested in Ham radio, contact Mark Miller, N9WT, (920) 231-1662 or Jeff Oppermann N9OSB, (920) 233-7961. We are always looking for good people to join us.

## Badger State Smoke Signals

*Amateur Radio  
Education and Information*

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TREASURER: Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage WI 53901.

EDITORIAL BOARD: Ken Ebnetter, K9EN; Dave Knaus, WA9POV; Don Evenson, K9JYX; Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ.

### Subscriptions

1 year	(12 issues)	\$13.95
2 years	(24 issues - save \$1.95)	\$25.95
3 years	(36 issues - save \$3.90)	\$37.95

Subscription form is on page 5. Special club package reduced rates are available. For information, contact Ken Ebnetter, K9EN.

### When to Send It

The closing date for each issue is the first of the month for the next month's issue. For example, the closing date for the June issue is May 1. The only exception is for participating clubs' minutes. Participating clubs are requested to send their material no later than FIVE DAYS after the club's meeting. For example, if a club meets on the 4th of the month, the material should be sent no later than

the 9th of that month. This material is to be sent to the Editor.

### Where to Send It

Address changes and corrections, and exchange papers should be sent to Ken Ebnetter.

Editorial material, photographs, and feature articles should be sent to Jim Romelfanger.

Inquiries about advertising should be directed to Ken Ebnetter. Club, swapfest, and Test Point information should be sent to Ken Ebnetter.

Swapfest ADS should be sent to Jim Romelfanger NO LATER THAN EIGHT WEEKS BEFORE THE EVENT'S DATE.

Subscriptions should be sent, with check or money order, to Ken Ebnetter.

### Conditions for Reprinting or BBS Posting Material from Badger State Smoke Signals

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*Badger State Smoke Signals* is incorporated as a Wisconsin non-stock, non-for-profit organization.

### Editorial Disclaimer

The opinions expressed in editorials, guest editorials, columns, articles, and letters from readers are the opinions of the authors only, and do not, unless otherwise stated, express or imply endorsement by *Badger State Smoke Signals*, or by any other individual or organization.

# The Test Point



## Amateur Radio Examination Locations and Schedules in the Wisconsin Area

June 05, 1999	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
June 05, 1999	St. Paul, MN
June 05, 1999	Stevens Point, WI
June 10, 1999	Apple Valley, MN
June 12, 1999	Blaine, MN
June 12, 1999	Madison, WI
June 15, 1999	Eden Prairie, MN
June 16, 1999	Bloomington, MN
June 19, 1999	Cottage Grove, MN
June 19, 1999	Loves Park, IL
June 19, 1999	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
June 26, 1999	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
June 26, 1999	Tomahawk, WI
July 03, 1999	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
July 03, 1999	Racine, WI
July 03, 1999	St. Paul, MN
July 08, 1999	Apple Valley, MN
July 10, 1999	Blaine, MN
July 10, 1999	Eau Claire, WI
July 10, 1999	Madison, WI
July 13, 1999	Eden Prairie, MN
July 17, 1999	Cottage Grove, MN
July 17, 1999	Loves Park, IL
July 17, 1999	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
July 20, 1999	Sheboygan, WI
July 24, 1999	Bloomington, MN
July 31, 1999	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
July 31, 1999	Tomahawk, WI
August 07, 1999	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
August 07, 1999	Racine, WI
August 07, 1999	St. Paul, MN
August 12, 1999	Apple Valley, MN
August 14, 1999	Blaine, MN
August 14, 1999	Madison, WI
August 17, 1999	Eden Prairie, MN
August 21, 1999	Cottage Grove, MN
August 21, 1999	Loves Park, IL
August 21, 1999	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
August 21, 1999	Oshkosh, WI (R.A.W.)
August 28, 1999	Bloomington, MN
August 28, 1999	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
August 28, 1999	Tomahawk, WI
September 11, 1999	Sheboygan, WI
September 11, 1999	Onalaska, WI
October 16, 1999	Oshkosh, WI (R.A.W.)
November 06, 1999	Menomonie, WI
November 06, 1999	Onalaska, WI
November 16, 1999	Sheboygan, WI
December 18, 1999	Oshkosh, WI (R.A.W.)
Monthly, 1st Sat.	Racine, WI
(except January, July & August)	
Monthly, 1st Sat.	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
Monthly, 1st Sat.	St. Paul, MN
Monthly, 2nd Thu.	Apple Valley, MN
Monthly, 2nd Sat.	Madison, WI Monthly,
2nd Sat.	Blaine, MN
Monthly, 3rd Tue.	Eden Prairie, MN
Monthly, 3rd Sat.	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
Monthly, 3rd Sat.	Loves Park, IL
Monthly, 3rd Sat.	Cottage Grove, MN
Monthly, 4th Sat.	Bloomington, MN
Monthly, Last Sat.	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
(except December)	
Monthly, Last Sat.	Tomahawk, WI
(January thru October only)	
Quarterly	Eau Claire, WI
(Second Saturday Jan., Apr., & Oct.)	
plus annual summer hamfest.)	

Many Swapfests/Hamfests offer exam sessions. If not shown above contact the sponsoring club in the Swapfest column on page 2.

The FCC now requires applicants to show their ORIGINAL AMATEUR LICENSE to the VEC. A copy of your license must be attached to your FCC form 610. You will also be required to have a photo ID, or other acceptable identification.

### GENERAL RULES

### FOR MOST EXAMINATIONS:

Be sure to check with sponsors in the event there are changes and/or errors in the dates or information given.

Some examinations require filing an FCC Form 610 and advance registration at least 30 days before the exam date. (Some VECs permit walk-ins. Check with sponsor.)

To register, you must first secure a copy of the current FCC Form 610 and fill it out completely (AND CORRECTLY). Get your form from an FCC Field Office, the ARRL. Send a 32c/SASE if you request one from the ARRL. In most cases, forms can also be obtained from the sponsoring group.

ARRL/VEC examinations require a check for \$6.45 payable to "ARRL/VEC".

The FCC now requires applicants to show their ORIGINAL AMATEUR LICENSE or CSCE to the VEC. You must also have two good copies of your license or CSCE. A copy of your license or CSCE must be attached to your FCC form 610 and most VEC want a copy for their records. You will also be required to have a photo ID, or other acceptable identification.

Technician class licensees must show proof of testing before March 21, 1987, in order to upgrade to General with a code test only.

Additional information is given below.

For those with internet access, a listing of exam sessions is available from:

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/examsearch.phtml>

By checking this page, a person can find out registered VE sessions anywhere in US and some overseas. You can search by country, state or zip code. The listing is not specific to any particular VEC, it is a master database. (Thanks to KB9EQI for information.)

### MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS' CLUB (MRAC/VEC)

#### LAST SATURDAY - MILWAUKEE, WI

LAST SATURDAY DATES: (except December): 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at Amateur Electronic Supply (AES), 5710 W. Good Hope Rd., Milwaukee, WI. Note: For Additional Information: Call (414) 797-MRAC (Answering Machine) or (414) 797-6722.

Bring along your ORIGINAL license, CSCE (if any) and one (1) good quality photocopy of each, plus two forms of identification, such as a driver's license, etc. Also required is \$6.40 for the exam fee. WALK-INS are welcome. To register in advance, use a post card: Print the grade of license you are applying for, your name, address, and telephone number. Send the card to MRAC/VEC, Milwaukee Radio Amateurs Club, PO Box 25707, Milwaukee, WI 53225.

### BADGER EXAMINERS (BE) - MILWAUKEE

Badger Examiners group tests at AES (Amateur Electronic Supply) at 60th and Good Hope, every third Saturday MORNING. Exam times are 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon, at the old Sterman Printing shop, just 300 feet west of the AES store. Novice to Extra are offered, and all test materials are provided. Fee is \$6.35, and bring your original license, or CSCE if needed. Also available are Commercial license exams GROL (General Radiotelephone license), GMDSS, Telegraph, Etc. Fee is \$35.00. For more information call Gary Sharbuno, WI9M at (414) 355-0237.

### MADISON, WI

VE exams are held in Madison every second Saturday morning of the month at 8 a.m. They are held at the operations building of the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District at 1610 Moorland Rd. To get there take the Beltline (Hwy 12 & 18) to South Towne Drive. Go south 8/10 mile till South Towne Drive makes a bend and becomes Moorland Rd. and enter at gate.

You should bring a picture ID, your original license and a copy of your license. For exams beyond the novice tests, bring a check for \$6.35, made out to the ARRL/VEC. If the special 610 form with the medical exemption is required, contact me beforehand to obtain one. No appointments are necessary to take exams. For further questions, please leave a message on the mailbox or phone me at (608) 832-6631.

Mark Jenks, NZ9B

### STEVENS POINT, WI

ARRL Exams in Stevens Point, Time: 0930. Place: A107 Science Building, on campus at UWSP (corner of Fourth and Reserve streets) For more information contact Joe Larson, N9JW, at 715- 344-1182 evenings or email to joel8@bigfoot.com.

### RACINE, WISCONSIN - ARRL/VEC

Monthly - first Saturday, except January, July, and August.

Monthly exams are given 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. at the Red

Cross Building, 4521 Taylor Avenue, Racine. Walk-ins are permitted.

Talk in on 147.87/27. Inquiries and registrations should be directed to Robert N. Jensen, W0WLN, 5616 Cambridge lane #6, Racine, WI. Telephone (414) 886-8551.

### TOMAHAWK, WI

Last Saturday of every month. Jan. thru Oct.

Tomahawk Volunteer Examiners (ARRL/VEC). Tomahawk, WI. No preregistration required, but appointment would be appreciated. Registration at 8:30 a.m. and testings starts at 9:00 a.m. For location or other information, inquire on 145.43 MHz. repeater or contact: Terry Collins, KB9AUP, W6564 Highway 8, Tomahawk, WI 54487. Telephone (715) 453-4633.

### APPLETON, WI - ARRL/VEC

#### MANITOWOC, WI (HAMFEST)

KAUKAUNA, WI (HAMFEST) Conducted by the Fox Cities ARC VE team. All test sessions in Appleton are held at James Madison Jr. High, 2020 S. Carpenter Street. Testing starting at 8 a.m. For Appleton information, contact George R. Croy, W9MDP, 2113 Twin Willows Drive, Appleton, WI 54914. (920) 730-0967. For Manitowoc or Kaukauna information, contact Larry Siebers, KD9IA (920) 759-1167.

### OSHKOSH (OMRO)

The Oshkosh VE Team will administer Amateur Radio exams monthly on the first Saturday. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and exams will be given from 9 a.m. until noon at the Omro Community Center, 130 W. Larrabee, Omro, WI. Walk-ins welcomed. Bring a good quality photocopy of your original license and any other necessary documents such as a CSCE, etc. The first session will be through W5YI/VEC, and then sessions will alternate between ARRL/VEC and W5YI/VEC. The exam fee is \$6.35. For more information, please call Dick Lemme, K9FA, at (920) 235-0987, e-mail [lemme@vbe.com](mailto:lemme@vbe.com), or write Dick at 826 Jefferson Street, Oshkosh, WI 54901.

### OSHKOSH, WI (R.A.W.) - (W5YI/VEC)

August 21, 1999, October 16, 1999, December 18, 1999. Sponsored by Radio Amateurs of Wisconsin (R.A.W.) Testing sessions at UW Oshkosh, College of Nursing Building, 845 Algoma Blvd., Room 211, Oshkosh, WI. Park free in lot 29 on side of building or in lot 25 behind the building. Registration start at 9 a.m. \$6.35 per test. Bring 2 forms of id etc. Walk-ins are welcome. Contact: Mark Miller, N9WT, (920) 231-1662 or Mike O'Connor, K9II (920) 231-7093.

### EAU CLAIRE, WI

The Eau Claire ARC will hold exam sessions on the second Saturday in the months of January, April, and October, as well as on the date of their annual hamfest during the summer. For more info: Steve Bluem KA9OMY 715-839-6509

### SHEBOYGAN, WI

All sessions will be held in the Red Cross building, 2023 Erie Avenue, Sheboygan, WI, in the SCARC meeting room on the lower level of the building. This area is not readily handicapped accessible. In the event there is a candidate who would be affected by this situation, we will accommodate that person in one of the Red Cross conference rooms on the main level of the building which IS handicapped accessible. Pre-registration is necessary (we don't want get caught sort!) Contact: Art Pahr, K9XJ, N8209 Willow Road, Plymouth, WI 53073-2929. (920) 876-2370. e-mail <[k9xj@excel.net](mailto:k9xj@excel.net)>

### ONALASKA, WI (ARRL/VEC)

The Riverland Amateur Radio Club will hold test sessions at the Onalaska Public Library, 741 Oak Avenue South. registration begins at 9:00 a.m. Please bring two forms of identification and two copies of all original documents, CSCEs, license, etc. For more information contact: Roger Reader, KA9BKK, 526 13th Ave. N., Onalaska, WI 54650. (608) 783-0723

### MEDFORD, WI (ARRL/VEC)

Taylor County Area AREC. Registration starts 8:30 a.m., testing starts 9:00 a.m. Location: The conference room in the lower level of the Sheriff's annex to the Taylor County Courthouse, corner of 2nd and Ogden Sts., Medford, WI. Take Ogden St. west off of Hwy. 13 to the courthouse. Park in the lots on the east or south sides of the courthouse or on the street. PLEASE use the entrance on the south side of the courthouse and watch of the signs. Walk-ins welcome. Contact: Tom Hrdina, N9GEN, 2373 Willow Ave., Medford, WI 54451. (715) 748-4054

(continued on page 15)



# The Automatic Packet Reporting System (APRS)

By Tom Weeden, WJ9H

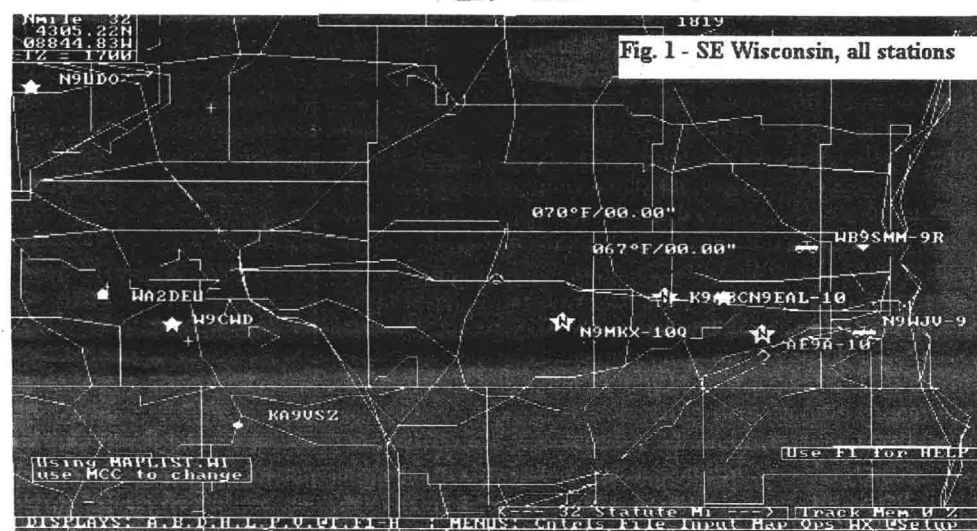
## #4 - Display Options

If you have started using APRS, you may have wondered how to sort out all the information available on your display. This month we'll go over some examples of different screen displays.

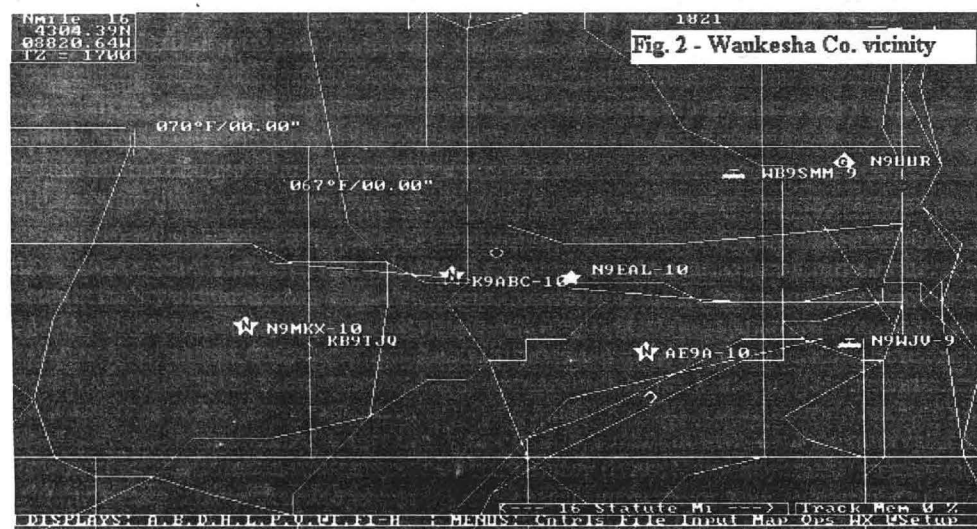
To review, there are several single-key commands to give you various text displays:

P shows the POSITION screen. This is a list of all stations' position packets.  
L shows the LIST of status (non-position) packets.  
D shows the DIGIPEATER list, the paths of all stations heard.  
B shows any current BULLETINS that stations may have sent.  
H shows the HEARD page, a list of hourly statistics from each station.  
F1 gives HELP! Press F1 then H for a quick summary of one-letter commands.  
Pressing the SPACE bar redraws the current map.  
Pressing the HOME key redraws the current map centered on the cursor location.  
Pressing PAGE UP or PAGE DOWN zooms in or out centered on the cursor location.  
Q is for QUIT.

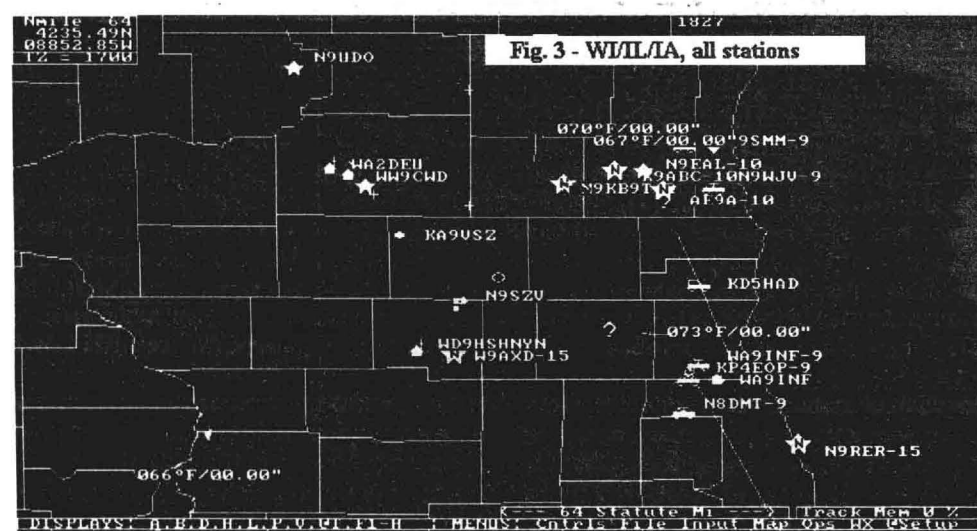
Now let's see how to view different map screens. The following screens are part of the Wisconsin "maplist" which is not available on the generic download of APRS from the TAPR web site. (See the April 1999 BSSS or visit the WJ9H web site to see how to get Wisconsin files.) Once you've launched APRS, you will need to load the Wisconsin map list by pressing M (Maps), C (Config), C (Change map list), and entering "WI" then <Enter>. Move the cursor over Wisconsin and press <Page Down> to zoom in. Here's a typical view of southeast Wisconsin as received in Madison.



Notice that some stations overlap each other, making it difficult to see them all. If we cursor over to Waukesha County and continued zooming in, we would see this:



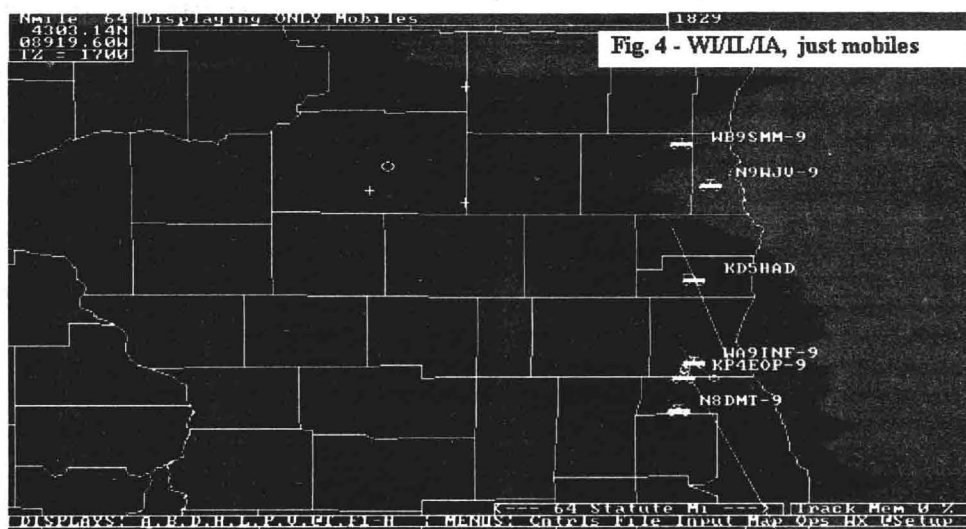
At this range, it is easier to view the stations. Digipeaters are represented by green stars, weather stations are blue circles, and mobiles show up as vehicle icons. Also visible in this view is N9UUR's internet gateway, shown by a "G." Now let's zoom out and pick up some of the activity in northern Illinois and eastern Iowa.



Now stations in metropolitan areas really overlap each other. However, to single out

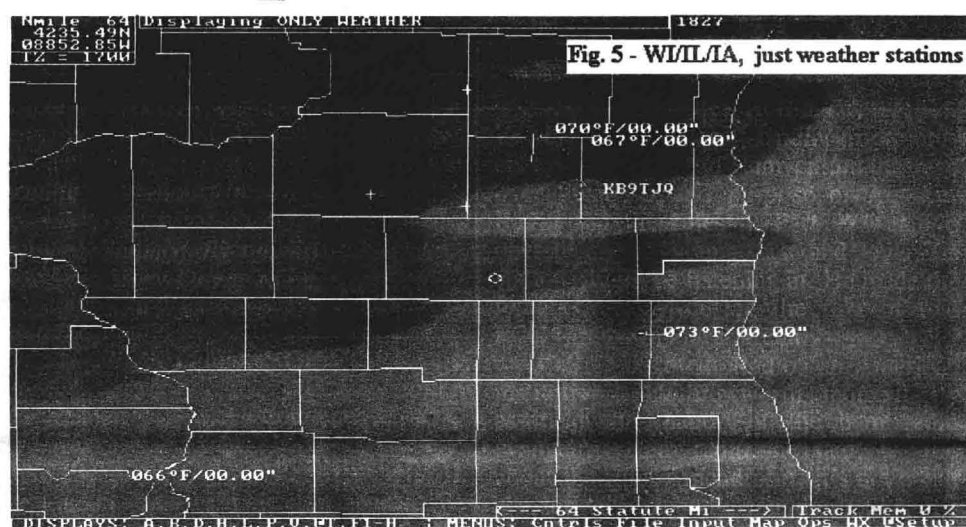
one station, simply cursor over its icon and press <Enter>. At the bottom of the screen you will see its position and status, plus a small histogram showing how many times you've received packets from that station each hour. If the map is centered on your station, the box in the upper left corner of the screen shows the distance and direction to the "hooked" station. Press <Enter> again to "unhook" the station.

If you'd like to display just a certain type of station and ignore the others, reach for the J (Just) key. Press J (Just), M (Mobiles) to see only mobile stations.



You're seeing only stations with GPS trackers. Some show up as cars, some as jeeps or vans. If the mobile is programmed to use a particular GPS sentence showing course and speed, APRS will plot a vector over the icon showing that information. If you have the "dead-reckoning" option enabled in APRS, the program will estimate the vehicle's future position in absence of any updated GPS positions.

Here is what a weather-only display looks like. Press J (Just), W (Weather).



There are several different ways to display the weather information transmitted from each station. The default is the station's callsign. In figure 5, I've chosen the Temperature/Rainfall option. Other options are: Time/Barometer/Rainfall Time/Wind/Gust/Rainfall.

To change the weather displays, press W (Weather), C (Calls) and follow the sub-menus. You can display ALL the weather information from each station by pressing the N (Next) key, which cycles through each weather-reporting station and displays its information at the top and bottom of the screen.

One weather station, KB9TJQ (now WX9MWX), has an extra circle around its icon. That signifies a National Weather Service station; in this case, the NWS/Sullivan office has an amateur station. It runs the Windows version of APRS and can monitor the area weather-reporting stations, both automated and those entering data manually.

You can use the J (Just) command to display just digipeaters, or any other single type of station. To see all the stations again, press J (Just), A (All).

Next month we'll tackle the basics of setting up an automated APRS weather station and a GPS tracker. In the meantime, here are a few web pages to check out for more information on APRS. Keep those TNCs on 144.39 MHz!

WJ9H's web site: [www.execpc.com/~tcweeden](http://www.execpc.com/~tcweeden)

N9UUR's web site: [www.execpc.com/~N9UUR](http://www.execpc.com/~N9UUR)

Latest APRSdos version (Tucson Amateur Packet Radio): [www.tapr.org](http://www.tapr.org)

WinAPRS: <ftp://msproul.rutgers.edu/pub/hamradio/APRS/WinAPRS>

MacAPRS: <ftp://msproul.rutgers.edu/pub/hamradio/APRS/MacAPRS>

## Copper Harbor Grid EN67 Expedition

Several LaCrosse/Onalaska WI area hams, members of Riverland Amateur Radio Club, will activate grid EN67 this summer. This grid is mostly the waters of Lake Superior, though it includes a small peninsula near Copper Harbor in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, Keweenaw county. Bill Wood, KE9XQ; Peter Schaettle, N9XVG; and Mark Cassellius, KB9OFK, among others, will operate from 7/10/99 at 1400 UTC to 1400 UTC 7/11/99. Our goal is to operate 2 meters, 6 meters, HF, and packet. We will attempt to focus on the following frequencies: 146.52, 50.125, 28.400, 14.026.

However you may find us other places, depending on propagation. We will use the above call signs and possibly others, depending on our other participants.

QSL with SASE to: Bill Wood, KE9XQ, W2788 Birch LN, LaCrosse, WI 54601.

E-mail: [drmarkdc@aol.com](mailto:drmarkdc@aol.com)

Part of our goal is to use some of our personal and club gear as an exercise or drill in setup and operation, and to fix the rough spots in preparation for future emergency needs. We also thought it would be fun to activate this particular grid. This may also prepare us for some future expedition. And, of course, we will be there to have fun operating.

Mark, KB9OFK



## Final journey of the USCG icebreaker "Glacier": Part 6

By Sherm Carr, W9NGT

*This is the sixth part in a series of the personal log of Sherm Carr, W9NGT, who sailed from Australia to Oregon aboard the Coast Guard's icebreaker "Glacier". His son, Mike, was posted to that ship, and Sherm and son sailed together on her voyage to her decommissioning in Astoria, Oregon.*

1600 - 6 April

Up early, but no propagation until about 1030. Not much traffic. I let everyone know this would be our last day, and tried, inadequately, I fear, to express our appreciation, on behalf of Glacier's crew and myself. How does one do justice to all these folks who stuck with us for almost a month? It is not possible, but I tried my best. It is certain that I will remember them, always.

And so, I shut the rig and that big linear down, gathered up the logs, QSL cards, and my fancy polished aluminum-on-mahogany call sign plaque, and brought them down to the cabin. I'll just be a passenger from here on in. It is certain that I will miss the hamshack.

2200 - 6 April

Settled in, plot done, coffee and visit time. The trip is winding down. No paperwork today, and I must admit, I sorely miss the activity. SATNAV shows 406 miles to Astoria. We dock there overnight and sail up the Columbia River the next day, to Portland.

1100 - 7 April

SATNAV indicates 212 miles to Astoria. Seas are fairly calm, and glacier rumbles on at 16 knots, about 18 MPH. Roamed around and visited all morning. Everyone has good things to say about the phone patch operation, but they are looking forward to Portland, and home. I must admit I am thinking of home also.

1500 - still 7 April

One month ago, I took off from Milwaukee for Sydney. It hardly seems that long. I don't see Mike much except at night when we are settled in. All department officers have been surveying, inventorying, and packing up spare parts, cargo, and equipment.

Was invited to the Captain's cabin for coffee and snacks. There's a rapport between the Captain and his officers and crew that is seldom seen, yet the respect and discipline he commands is truly remarkable.

I miss the hamshack. It was such an integral part of my daily activity, it is difficult to just be a passenger. An important note; Gerard, KE7CF, one of our dedicated West Coast stations who served us so well, will be making the trip from Astoria to Portland with us.

2200 - still 7 April

Settled in, and made the last plot on friend bill's map. Tomorrow we will be in Astoria. I expect most of the crew will be up early. We are due at the dock at 0900.

1000 - 8 April

We are docked in Astoria. Again, I watched a docking procedure that was impressive, in spite of a tricky wind. Mike came in dead slow at a slight angle, put the lines out, and warped Glacier right in. Went astern once to put the brakes on. The lines are six inch woven Dacron, with precisely controlled stretch characteristics, each handled by a capstan operator and crew.

A ship this size must be persuaded, gently, to go where she is supposed to go. As Chief Mulford put it, "When the line twangs a high 'A flat,' it is time to ease off some." All six lines must have precisely the same tension, to coax Glacier in that last three feet. But Glacier is docile, moves ever so gently to the dock, and the maneuver is complete.

2300 - 8 April

I left the ship about 1100, walked up to a motel, and made flight reservations home. Called home, but no answer. Will try later. My sea legs made me wobble a little for a while. Solid pavement felt strange. With docking and port procedures completed, Mike, George and I walked up to a night club called The Red Lion. Just about all the Officers and Crew showed up

Please turn to page 9

## Stan Appointed State Radio Officer

By Richard Regent, K9GDF

Although the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) and Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) are separate entities, the American Radio Relay League advocates dual membership and cooperative efforts between both groups whenever possible.

Promoting such cooperative efforts is Dr. Stanley Kaplan, WB9RQR of Port Washington, who has been running at full speed since hitting the ground on the first of this year when he was appointed Wisconsin ARRL Section Emergency Coordinator (SEC). For several years Stan was Emergency Coordinator (EC) of Ozaukee County where he required dual membership and developed several new streamlined procedures, greatly increased ARES participation, and coordinated communications training. Stan will continue duties as Deputy Director (DD), Emergency Management, for Ozaukee County.

On May 1, 1999, Stan Kaplan was appointed as the new State of Wisconsin Chief Radio Officer by Director Steve Sell of the Division of Emergency Management, but Stan will work under the direction of Alan Wohlferd, the State Communications and Warning Officer. This provides Stan with the best vantage point and opportunity ever for unifying emergency communications throughout the state. The State of Wisconsin Chief Radio Officer has direct responsibility for all RACES activities within Wisconsin and for resolving all RACES frequency sharing problems within the state and with adjoining states. Another duty is to direct the organization of State and Area RACES

nets.

John Leekley, WB9SMM, serving as SEC before Stan, says, "I am very pleased that I convinced Stan, who has enough to do as new SEC, to seek the position of State Radio Officer. This is a perfect opportunity to meld ARES and RACES. I worked on this goal for over three years, hoping to complete it to help Amateur Radio emergency communications in Wisconsin. Stan got the job in just a few months!" John now handles the demanding duties of Emergency Coordinator for Milwaukee and Waukesha Counties, among his many other Amateur Radio activities.

An ARRL Section Emergency Coordinator, like Wisconsin's WB9RQR, does some hefty work making policies and plans and establishing goals, selecting the District ECs and ECs, promoting ARES membership and keeping tabs on emergency preparedness.

Now Stan will work on the task of checking over the Wisconsin RACES Communications Plan. The RACES regulations make it simple for an ARES group whose members are all enrolled in and certified by RACES to operate in an emergency with great flexibility. Using the same operators and the same frequencies, an ARES group also enrolled as RACES can switch hats to meet the requirements of the situation as it develops. We are lucky that Wisconsin's talented Stan Kaplan (SEC, SCRO and DD) has a full compliment of hats to wear, to help us coordinate efforts of Amateur Radio for providing the best of emergency communications service when needed.

## KA9KLZ honored

Art Evans, Wisconsin's now-retired Section Traffic Manager, left, was recently presented a certificate of appreciation by outgoing ARRL Section Manager Roy Pedersen, K9FHI.

Photo courtesy K9FHI



## K9FHI steps down as Section Manager

Roy Pedersen, K9FHI, Juneau, ARRL Section Manager for Wisconsin, is stepping down to make room for real retirement - before he gets too tired. Stepping in to complete Roy's unexpired term is Don Michalski, W9IXG, Madison. We will have more information in our July issue. Thanks, Roy! Welcome, Don!

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JUNE 1999



## The Computer Corner

By Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR • 105 Martin Drive  
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SKAPLAN @ MCW.EDU



### No. 67: Memory 3 - The "RAMs"

Last month we looked at the physical memory "sticks", the ones you add to your motherboard to increase Random Access Memory (RAM). This month we'll finish up the topic by exploring the various types of RAM. In the past, all one had to worry about was RAM speed. Almost everyone knew that if your machine required 70ns SIMMs, it would not do to put in 80ns sticks when adding memory. Further, practical experience taught many of us that it was best to use sticks that all came from the same manufacturer, and even from the same lot! Today, there is much more to consider.

The RAM you add as sticks is really DRAM or Dynamic RAM. DRAM consists of many, many little capacitors, each associated with its own transistor. If the capacitor is charged, this indicates a 1; if uncharged a 0. The transistor associated with each capacitor is used to read the state of the capacitor, in other words, whether it holds a 0 or a 1. Simple enough, except that the capacitors are constantly discharging by themselves. Therefore, Dynamic RAM needs to be refreshed about every 2 msec or it will lose its data.

An interesting aside is that DRAM chips are currently being produced that contain 256 million transistor-capacitor pairs! Compare that with a 386DX CPU (275,000 transistors), a 486DX CPU (1.2 million transistors) or the first Pentium (3.1 million transistors). The difference is that in CPUs the transistors are arranged in very complex logic circuits, while in DRAMs, the arrangement is simple, square columns and rows.

Think of the capacitor-transistor pairs in DRAM as being laid out in a square array, just like the columns and rows on a spreadsheet page. Indeed, a given pair is accessed by selecting a column and row address before querying the transistor at that site concerning the state of its capacitor. Logically enough, this process is called paging. It works well, but takes time to accomplish.

Fast Page Mode DRAM uses a slightly different method to reduce the time taken by this process. When accessing the pairs, the row address is kept the same and only the column is changed, which simply takes less time. Another method to speed access in FPM DRAM is to simply read the data held by the next three capacitors at the same time. After all, we know what row we are working with so why not just go ahead and read the next three columns as well? It actually takes a bit less time to do so without first going back to select a new column, which speeds things up considerably. This ploy is called a bursting technique, and DRAMs designed to employ this are called Burst Mode Access DRAMs, a subset of FPM DRAMs. Yet another subset uses an interleaving technique to speed things up. Two separate banks of memory (two or four sticks) were

used alternately, so that one could be charged while the other was being accessed for data. Again, this made access faster, but the method was dropped with Pentium (64 bit machines) because it would require installing memory 128 bits at a time (four 72 pin SIMMs or two 168 pin DIMMs at a time).

During the mid 1990s, Extended Data Out (EDO) memory was invented as yet another subset of Fast Page Mode. About 10ns per cycle were saved by not turning off the output drivers on the memory chip before the next memory access was started. This saved nearly as much time as interleaving, mentioned above, and didn't require installing sticks in pairs. Further, it costs no more to produce EDO sticks, though your Pentium motherboard must support this type of memory if you are to use it.

SDRAM (Synchronous DRAM) is likely in your machine today if it was built after about 1997. These DIMM modules are designed to run in synchrony with the memory bus of your system. Using a clocked interface, these chips deliver information to the memory bus in high speed bursts of information that overcome the limitations of earlier memory designs. As an example, a task that took 1.4 seconds for Fast Page Mode memory and 1.1 seconds for Extended Data Out RAM would take only 0.8 seconds for an SDRAM module. SDRAM is also currently capable of supporting a 100 MHz bus speed, and this speed may well double in the future. If you see modules advertised that are PC/100 certified, these are sticks that adhere to the Intel standard that sets criteria needed for them to work reliably in a 100 MHz system (which means they can technically operate in a 125 MHz environment).

What is next? Look for RIMMs later this year (Rambus Inline Memory Modules). These are similar in size and form to DIMMs, but they are of a radical new design. The data bus in the chip is doubled to 16 bits, and the clock speed is up to 800 MHz! You will purchase these amazing sticks in 256-Mb sizes initially, but they will eventually be available in 1 Gb sizes or even larger. Imagine yourself saying to a friend, "Yeah, I need to get another Gigastick of memory for my computer." It may well happen, sooner than you think! Another development is DDR (Double Data Rate) SDRAM. This stick does much the same as standard SDRAM, but twice as fast by sending two bursts of data for each clock cycle. These are likely to be less expensive than RIMMs, since the technology is license-free while the company that invented RIMMs (Rambus) must license them.

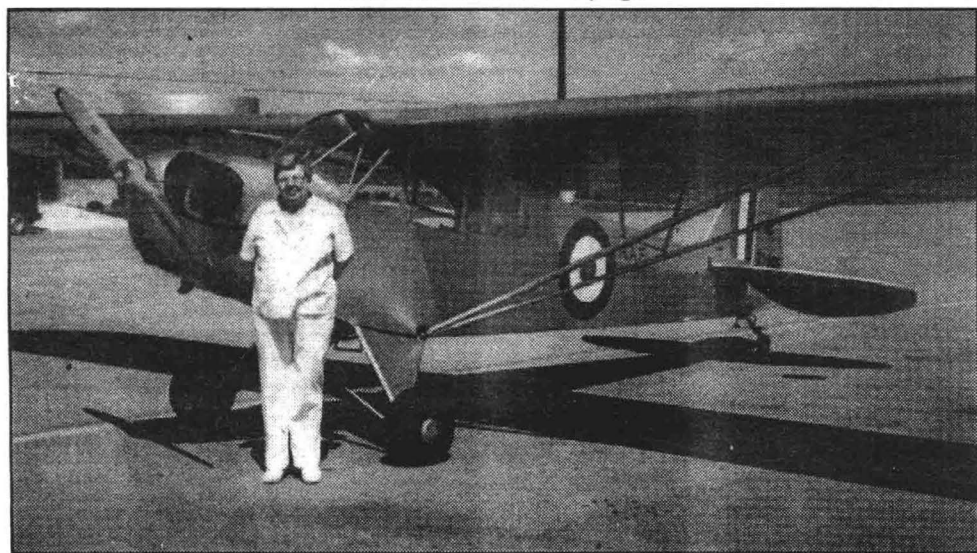
Finally, a prediction. Eventually, we will all be using SRAM (Static RAM) for standard computer memory. Even today's SRAM designs can handle processors running up to 500 MHz. There are no capacitors holding data in SRAM, just a cluster of six transistors for each bit. Since there is no capacitor leaking its charge, no refresh cycle is needed, and the chips will hold their data so long as power is applied. Today, these chips are up to 30 times bigger than DRAM chips (all those transistors take up space) and are also up to 30 times more expensive to produce, so it is impractical to even think about using them in place of DRAM. However, I believe that future advances in design and production will eventually make SRAM practical for standard memory modules. When that happens, battery backup will keep them "alive" even when you turn off the power. That means, when you boot your machine in the morning, the letter you were working on will still be on the screen, just as you left it the night before. There will be no need to load it from the hard drive, since it is still up in memory!

Don't forget to make arrangements to attend Field Day, and have fun there! Happy computing!

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## Hall of Fame for Fern

Continued from front page



Here, Fern stands by a Piper J-3 that has been restored to its original condition and markings. The plane was a "Basket Case" when the restorer became its latest owner. Through records that stayed with the plane, the restorer found that Fern had been an earlier pilot and mechanic. And on the way to an EAA Fly-in in Oshkosh, the owner stopped in Racine to show Fern the restored plane.

Photo courtesy Larry McCalvy/WA9JMO

licenses and participated in the practice and real Search and Rescue missions. Her technical knowledge was enhanced while trouble-shooting CAP's malfunctioning radio gear and in the building of 50 Heathkit transceivers for the young folks to use.

In 1954 the Novice test was passed and Fern spent a very pleasant year operating a military surplus BC-191 that had been converted to the required crystal control. The only problem was that the unit had its own unique tone and as soon as it was keyed everyone knew WN9LCJ was on the air before she tapped out her call.

The upgrade to Technician brought the call WN9LCJ. Fern holds an Advance License and has held the same call during her 45-years of Ham Radio affilia-

tion. Her heavy duty equipment testing, lead to an FCC Radio Telephone 2nd Class License, now known as a General Radio Telephone Class License that is still current.

Fern has been active in local Amateur radio community, serving as Secretary and Control Operator of the Lakeshore Repeater Association. She is a FCC Volunteer Examiner and has been a Director for the Chapter 162 of the QCWA. Fern states that Ham Radio has been a great hobby. It resulted in a wonderful marriage that lasted 40-years. Friends were made all over the world and three of her grandchildren are licensed Hams. Fern claims that she goes crazy trying to keep up with the new technologies and trying to convince herself that these are the Golden Years!

## R & R on Saturday morning



Informal ham radio get-togethers on Saturday mornings are a great way to chat in an "casual" atmosphere. Here are some of those who do that in Menomonie: Left to right are Jim, NX9F; Jerry, N9LRV; Bill, K9KGB; Steve, KA9OMC; James, KB9LUK; Kenny, KE9CS; Don, KØDL; and Chuck, N9FVA. This info came from Jim, NX9F, and the photo was taken by Dave, N9KMY. (I sure like Bill's call - editor.) If you have a group in your area doing Saturday coffee, take a few photos. If they are good pix, we'll print at least one! □

## From the editor..

• A very generous benefactor who has asked to remain anonymous has donated a new, zippy computer to BSSS. We thank that individual very much. It is great to know that this paper is cared about and respected that deeply.

• Our printer is changing presses. When we began printing in this tabloid format, BSSS was 13 inches high. Next, it became seventeen inches high. Here we go again. The new format will be sixteen inches high. We did not know at setup time which press would be used for this issue, so we set the vertical space at sixteen inches. If the margins at top and bottom look bigger than usual, that's why. When we start on the new press, we hope to give you better quality photos and better overall print quality. We're looking forward to that.



# ARRL Wisconsin Section

## ARES Emergency Coordinators

Revised March 30,  
1999

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#### NORTH EAST

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#### SOUTH CENTRAL

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#### SOUTH EAST (and EC, Milwaukee County; and EC, Waukesha County)

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\*Pager activated by Burnett County Sheriff.

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(and EC, Taylor County)  
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Alternate work: 1-800-782-8581 Ext 79026  
Note work hours 11:00 p.m. - 7:00 a.m. Monday - Friday.

Columbia County  
Kenneth Ebner, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, 53901.  
H: (608) 742-3560. kebner@palacenet.net

Continued on page 8

## Ladies and Gentlemen, children of all ages!

One of the grandest spectacles to ever been seen by human eyes will meander through the Wisconsin countryside this July.

The Great Circus Train, carrying about 60 restored, colorful circus wagons, will roll out of the rail yard of the Wisconsin Southern in Baraboo at about 9:15 a.m. CDT on Friday, July 2, 1999. Its journey this year will be four days long, taking a route that goes south to Janesville, northeast to Waukesha, to the Fox River Valley, to Green Bay, and on Day Four (July 5), to Milwaukee. Ham or not, this is something that will turn everyone into a kid again. It might even raise the hair on the back of your neck. It's something for all the family to see and enjoy. You can yell and wave at the passengers, and they will yell and wave right back. It's great fun and truly for everyone.

Ham radio has been invited back aboard, and the ham community is happy to serve.

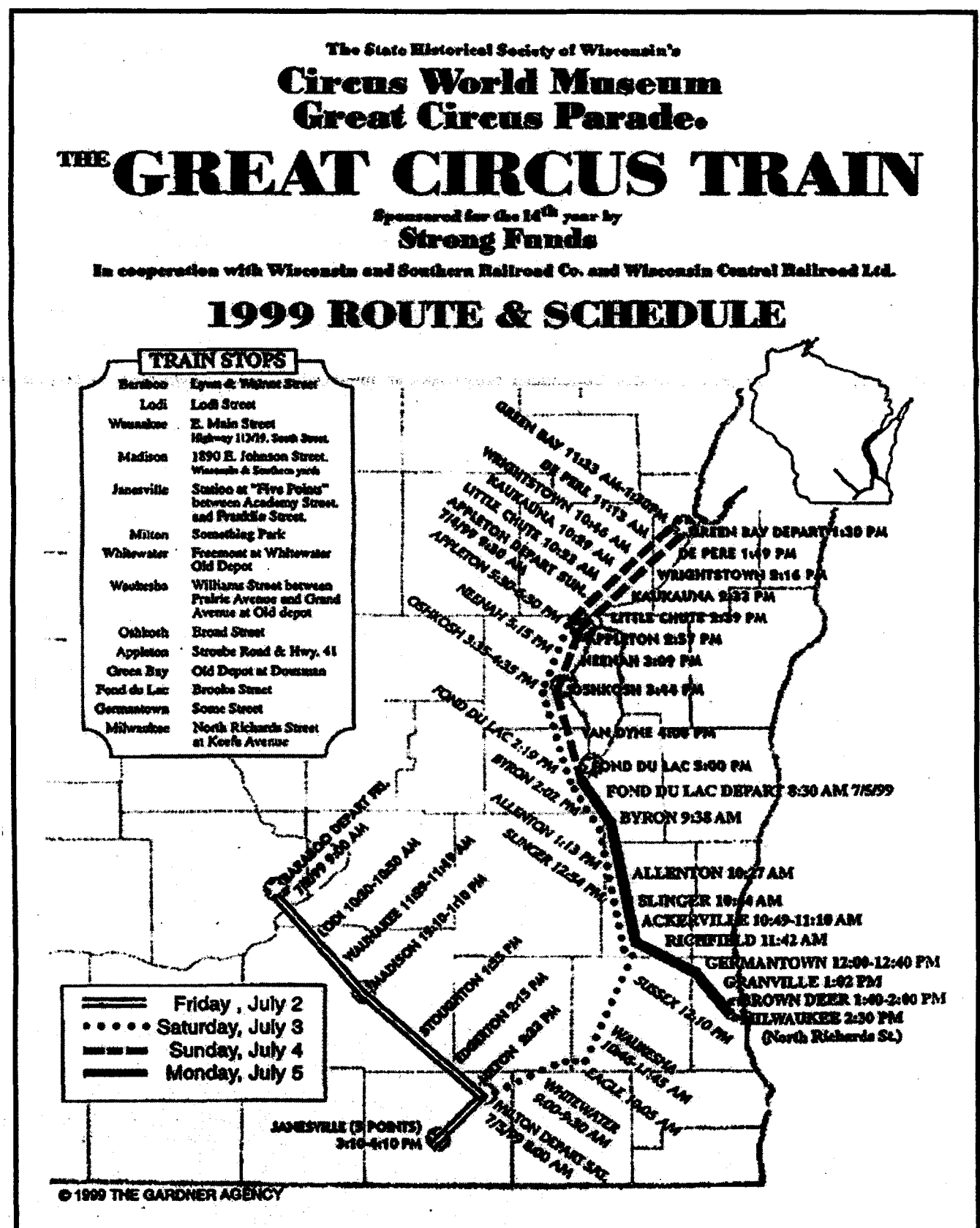
A special event station, W 9 R, will operate on

7.240, 14.240, and 21.340, one band a time, and intermittently on 146.55 MHz simplex. Starting times UTC are about 14:30 each day (about 9:30 a.m.). Days two and three may be earlier. With propagation being as improved as it is since the last operation, we hope to put some DX in the log on HF. QSLs and SASEs (9 x 12, with 3 units first class postage affixed) go to W 9 R trustee K9ZZ. Remember, without the SASE as required, no certificate. No tickee, no chickee.

The map below shows the entire route along with dates and times, including stops for public viewing.

Come on out and see us! We'd like to see you, too. If you have a 2-meter HT, call on 146.55. Hopefully, we will work you, too. You can be part of a great adventure this way, and be a kid again, all at the same time.

Thanks to Ray at Amateur Electronic Supply for the four-color certificates. Thanks also to Martin and Richard at MFJ Enterprises for their support.



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# Wisconsin ARES Emergency Coordinators

Continued from page 7

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## Dodge County

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## Door County

(vacant)

## Douglas County

(vacant)

## Dunn County

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H: (715) 235-3998 leyj@uwstout.edu  
W: (715) 232-1397 Messages at work: (715) 232-2391

## Eau Claire County

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Editor Chippewa Valley Feedline and Chippewa Valley ARES

## Florence County

(vacant)

## Fond Du Lac County

Robert Fishelson, K9GEI, W4541 Golf Course Drive, Fond Du Lac, 54935.  
H: (920) 921-6555 W: (920) 922-0550  
M: (920) 960-5769

## Forest County

Ronald Eveland, WR9C, 707 North Central Avenue, Crandon, 54520.  
H: (715) 476-2073

## Grant County

John Kuntz, KB9RYI, 1460 7th Street, Fennimore, 53809-1405.  
H: (608) 822-4474 W: (608) 822-3272

## Green County (also EC, Rock County)

Dave Deiler, KB9JQV (see EC, Rock County).

## Green Lake County

Jeffrey Warnke, KB9UI, N9018 County Road E, Ripon, 54971.  
H: (414) 748-3282 ipwarnke@fldotnet.com  
W: (414) 748-3282 M: (920) 517-2058

## Iowa County

Ray Laverty, KB9AKM, RR 2 Box 173, Hollandale, 53544.  
H: (608) 967-2468

## Iron County

(vacant)

## Jackson County

(vacant)

## Jefferson County

(vacant)

## Juneau County

(vacant)

## Kenosha County

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H: (414) 654-7236 wolfeman@execpc.com

P: (847) 314-5532

Packet 145.53 (home BBS = K9RIS)

## Kewaunee County

(vacant)

## La Crosse County

Tom O'Brien, WB9BJQ, 306 3rd Avenue South, Onalaska, 54650.  
H: (608) 783-2739 W: (608) 786-1662  
M: (608) 780-7937

W: tobrien@unxhost.wsaem.k12.wi.us  
H: pobrien@centuryinter.net

## Lafayette County

(vacant)

## Langlade County

(vacant)

## Lincoln County

Norman Winters, N9HJF, 219 E Lincoln Avenue, Tomahawk, 54487.  
H: (715) 453-4647 W: (715) 536-6272

## Manitowoc County

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H: (920) 684-5522

## Marathon County

Richard Maier, KC9NW, 1810 Perry Drive, Schofield, 54476-4817.  
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W: (715) 346-7487 P: (715) 576-3261

## Marinette County (South)

Dottie Staffeldt, WB9NCT, N7671 Deer Lane, Porterfield, 54159.  
H: (715) 732-2592 W: (715) 732-1677

## Marinette County (North)

(vacant)

## Marquette County

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H: (608) 296-4094 martin@palacenet.net  
W: (608) 742-9100 M: (608) 572-1348  
Ellen Martin, KB9QXZ, AEC  
Wayne Stewart KB9JJD, AEC (608) 589-5900

## Menomonee County

(vacant)

## Milwaukee County

(Also EC, Waukesha County and DEC, SE WI)  
John Leekley, WB9SMM, (see DEC, SE WI).

## Monroe County

Scott Hurd, KB9GCV, Route 5 Box 279, Tomah, 54660-9242.  
H: (608) 374-7220

## Oconto County

(vacant)

## Oneida County

Mary Berger, NS9Q, 367 Lois Street, Rhinelander, 54501.  
H: (715) 362-9296

## Outagamie County

John Morack, N9ZXR, W9498 County Road S, New London, 54961.  
H: (920) 779-4227 W: (920) 234-1425

## Ozaukee County

David Barrow, N9UNR, 1894 Elm Drive, Town of Cedarburg, West Bend, 53095-9603.  
H: (414) 375-2667 n9unr@execpc.com

## Pepin County

(vacant)

## Pierce County

Michael Perkins, W9SK, 440 Elm Street, Route 3, Box 32, Ellsworth, 54011.  
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## Polk County

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W: (612) 704-4673 P: (612) 534-9056

## Portage County

(vacant)

## Price County

Dwight Simpson, AG9G, W6929 Raskie Road, Phillips, 54555.  
H: (715) 339-3475 W: (715) 339-2151

## Racine County

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W: (414) 554-9191 P: (414) 584-5352  
M: (414) 217-1673

## Richland County

(vacant)

## Rock County

Dave Deiler, KB9JQV, 1140 Ontario Drive, Janesville, 53545-1367.  
H: (608) 754-7964 ddeiler@ticon.net  
W: (608) 873-2606

## Rusk County

(vacant)

# MFJ TUNERS

## MFJ-989C Legal Limit Antenna Tuner

MFJ uses super heavy duty components to make the world's finest legal limit tuner

MFJ uses super heavy duty components -- roller inductor, variable capacitors, antenna switch and balun -- to build the world's most popular high power antenna tuner.

The rugged world famous MFJ-989C handles 3 KW PEP SSB amplifier input power (1500 Watts PEP SSB output power). Covers 1.8 to 30 MHz, including MARS and WARC bands.

MFJ's AirCore™ roller inductor, new gear-driven turns counter and weighted spinner knob gives you exact inductance control for absolute minimum SWR. You can match dipoles, verticals, inverted vees, random wires, beams, mobile whips,



shortwave -- nearly any antenna. Use coax, random wire or balanced lines. You get everything you've ever wanted in a high power, full featured antenna tuner -- widest matching range, lighted Cross-

Needle SWR/Wattmeter, massive transmitting variable capacitors, ceramic antenna switch, built-in dummy load, TrueCurrent™ Balun, scratch-proof Lexan front panel -- all in a sleek compact cabinet (10 1/2" W x 4 1/2" H x 15 D in.).

MFJ AirCore™ Roller Inductor gives high-Q, low loss, high efficiency and high power handling. MFJ's exclusive Self-Resonance Killer™ keeps damaging self-resonances away from your operating frequency.

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## More hams use MFJ tuners than all other tuners in the world!

### MFJ-986 Two knob Differential-T™



Two knob tuning (differential capacitor and AirCore™ roller inductor) makes tuning foolproof and easier than ever. Gives minimum SWR at only one setting. Handles 3 KW PEP SSB amplifier input power (1.5 KW output). Gear-driven turns counter, lighted peak/average Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter, antenna switch, balun. 1.8 to 30 MHz. 10 1/2" W x 4 1/2" H x 15 in.

### MFJ-962D compact Tuner for Amps



A few more dollars steps you up to a KW tuner for an amp later. Handles 1.5 KW PEP SSB amplifier input power (800W output). Ideal for Ameritron's AL-811H! AirCore™ roller inductor, gear-driven turns counter, pk/avg lighted Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter, antenna switch, balun, Lexan front, 1.8-30MHz. 10 1/2" W x 4 1/2" H x 10 1/2" in.

### MFJ-969 300W Roller Inductor Tuner



Superb AirCore™ Roller Inductor tuning. Covers 6 Meters thru 160 Meters! 300 Watts PEP SSB. Active true peak reading lighted Cross-Needle SWR Wattmeter, QRM-Free PreTune™, antenna switch, dummy load, 4:1 balun, Lexan front panel. 3 1/2" H x 10 1/2" W x 9 1/2" D inches.

### MFJ-949E deluxe 300 Watt Tuner

More hams use MFJ-949s than any other antenna tuner in the world! Handles 300 Watts. Full 1.8 to 30 MHz.

coverage, 48 position Precision48™ inductor, 1000 Volt tuning capacitors, full size peak/average lighted Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter, 8 position antenna switch, dummy load, QRM-Free PreTune™, scratch proof Lexan front panel. 3 1/2" H x 10 1/2" W x 7 D inches. MFJ-948, \$129.95. Economy version of MFJ-949E, less dummy load, Lexan front panel.

### MFJ-941E super value Tuner

The most for your money! Handles 300 Watts PEP, covers 1.8-30 MHz, lighted Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter, 8 position antenna switch, 4:1 balun, 1000 volt capacitors, Lexan front panel. Sleek 10 1/2" W x 2 1/2" H x 7 D in.

### MFJ-945E HF+6 Meter mobile Tuner

Extends your mobile antenna bandwidth so you don't have to stop, go outside and adjust your antenna. Tiny 8x2x6 in. Lighted Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter. Lamp and bypass switches. Covers 1.8-30 MHz and 6 Meters. 300 Watts PEP. MFJ-20, \$49.95, mobile mount.

### MFJ-971 portable/QRP Tuner

Tunes coax, balanced lines, random wire 1.8-30 MHz. Cross-Needle Meter. SWR, 30/300 or 6 Watt QRP ranges. Matches popular MFJ transceivers. Tiny 6x6 1/2" x 2 1/2" inches.

### MFJ-901B smallest Versa Tuner

MFJ's smallest (5x2x6 in.) and most affordable wide range 200 Watt PEP Versa tuner. Covers 1.8 to 30 MHz. Great for matching solid state rigs to linear amps.

### MFJ-16010 random wire Tuner

Operate all bands anywhere with MFJ's reversible L-network. Turns random wire into powerful transmitting antenna. 1.8-30 MHz. 200 Watts PEP. Tiny 2x3x4 in.

### MFJ-906/903 6 Meter Tuners

MFJ-906 has lighted Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter, bypass switch. Handles 100 W FM, 200W SSB. MFJ-903, \$49.95. Like MFJ-906, less SWR/Wattmeter, bypass switch.

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MFJ-921 covers 2 Meters/220 MHz. MFJ-924 covers 440 MHz. SWR/Wattmeter. 8x2 1/2" x 3 inches. Simple 2-knob tuning for mobile or base.

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Ultra tiny 4x2 1/2" x 1 1/2" inch tuner covers VHF 136-175 MHz and UHF 420-460 MHz. SWR/Wattmeter reads 60/150 Watts.

### MFJ-931 artificial RF Ground

Creates artificial RF ground. Also electrically places a far away RF ground directly at your rig by tuning out reactance of connecting wire. Eliminates RF hot spots, RF feedback, TV/RFI, weak signals caused by poor RF grounding. MFJ-934, \$169.95. Artificial ground/300 Watt Tuner/Cross-Needle SWR/Wattmeter.

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Tech Help: (601) 323-0549



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Continued on page 9



# Wisconsin ARES Emergency Coordinators

Continued from page 8

## Sauk County

Peter Sweeney, WD9JIB, 524 Charles Street, Reedsburg, 53959.  
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M: (608) 963-2557  
psweeney@next-wave.net  
W: (608) 254-4488

## Sawyer County

(vacant)

## Shawano County

Kevin King, KB9DAC, N3553 Town Line Road, Shawano, 54166.  
H: (715) 526-3859  
W: (920) 498-5742  
kingkw@ezwebtech.com

## Sheboygan County

(vacant)

## Saint Croix County

Robert Emberger, KB9BTB, 126 Vine Street, River Falls, 54022.  
H: (715) 425-7452  
W: (612) 227-9247

## Taylor County (also EC, Clark County)

Michael Schoenfuss, N9GHZ, (see EC, Clark County)

## Trempealeau County

(vacant)

## Vernon County

(vacant)

## Vilas County

Tom Kinney, KE9UE, 214 N Tomahawk Avenue, Apt 1, Tomahawk, 54847.  
H: (715) 453-1939  
FAX (715) 453-1939  
W: (715) 453-1939

\*Home and work;  
W: listing is auto receiving (paging). tkinney@newnorth.net

## Walworth County

Gary Payne, N9VE, PO Box 117, Eagle, 53119.  
H: (414) 594-2795  
W: (414) 473-8100  
n9ve@icccom.net

## Washburn County (also EC, Burnett County)

Wesley Jones, N9PHS (see EC, Burnett County).

## Washington County

Walter Gossfeld, N9LLS, 6967 Lark Avenue, Hartford, 53027.  
H: (414) 673-7076  
M: (414) 940-1867

## Waukesha County

(also DEC, SE WI and EC, Milwaukee County)  
John Leekley, WB9SMM (see DEC, SE WI).

## Waupaca County

Dave Chroninger, WB9BGB, 410 Iola Street, Iola, 54945.

## Waushara County

Erwin Reiser, K9CUI, W6537 Simonson Lane, Wautoma, 54982-7857.  
H: (920) 787-2489 "Doc"

## Winnebago County (North)

Patrick LaTour, K9IK, 1037 Rock Ledge Lane, Neenah, 54956.  
H: (920) 725-1149  
P: (920) 440-9078  
k9ik@juno.com

## Winnebago County (South)

Dan Lenz, KB9IME, 613 West 9th Avenue, Oshkosh, 53901.  
H: (920) 233-7145

## Wood County

Jack Lukes, WB9QXO, 341-13th Street S, Wisconsin Rapids, 54494.  
H: (715) 423-1425

## Watertown

Claude Held, WA9KCU, 757 Kathryn Court, Watertown,

53098.  
H: (920) 261-4421  
EC for City of Watertown  
heldoc@globaldialog.com  
W: (920) 261-0223

## CWRA (Central Wisconsin Repeater Association)

Thomas Weeden, WJ9H, 6802 Putnam Road, Madison, 53711.  
H: (608) 276-7915  
W: (608) 274-1515  
EC for CWRA Baraboo 146.88 Repeater Severe Weather Operations

## National Weather Service

Tom Fleming, N9SZF, 3201 Clove Drive, Madison, 53704.  
H: (608) 246-0282  
EC for NWS Forecast and Warning Center, Sullivan  
tfleming@madison.tec.wi.us

## Green Bay Weather

Andy Nemec, KB9ALN, 720 North Broadway, Green Bay, 54303.  
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EC for Green Bay Weather

## ARES Packet

Len Kreyer, N9QIP, W7817 Highway 60, Arlington, 53911.  
H: (608) 635-7635  
M: (608) 576-8822  
n9qip@itis.com (office/home)  
n9qip@ibm.net (on road/ham stuff)  
(608) 576-2711 2nd choice cellular;  
576-7635 3rd choice cellular  
EC for ARES Packet Radio System

The possibility always exists that amateurs may be called upon for communications in both routine and emergency situations. That's why we published this list. Volunteer communications have been provided unselfishly by hams since ham radio began. If you are interested in becoming part of organized volunteer Amateur Radio communications, contact the EC in your county. If there is no EC listed, and if you are interested in getting ARES going in your county, get in touch with Section Emergency Coordinator Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR. His addresses are in the heading of his computer column on page 6. To hold an EC appointment, you must be an ARRL member, and hold a Technician or higher class license. □

# Final journey of the USCG icebreaker "Glacier": Part 6

Continued from page 5

eventually. They used up the entire bar and lounge. It was a great party. We all walked up to a restaurant for dinner, and then back to The Red Lion. I visited with most of Mike's crew, and they are all just great. It was very noisy with a rock band playing; I finally gave up and went back to the ship. It was a fine large evening, and I must admit, solid pavement started to feel good again.

It is quiet on board with the engines shut down. As I came back to the dock, and saw Glacier all lit up with big floodlights, I was glad we took many photos to remember this fine ship.

Special sea detail is at 0800, and we will be underway for Glacier's last 90 miles. I sure wish it were different. When she ties up in Portland, I will have been aboard for some 9200 miles, counting the transit from Puerto Villarta to Long Beach. This is a small distance compared to the 980,000 miles that will have passed under Glacier's keel during her 31 years of operation.

## 1000 - 9 April

We are underway for Portland. It is breezy and quite cool on deck. Most of the guests and dependents are inside. Gerard, KE7CF, is having a ball. His XYL is also with us. It took me a while to find him. Actually, he found me with help from one of Mike's crew. The scenery is beautiful, but it is too cool to stay on deck very long.

## 1810 - still 9 April

We are docked in Portland and the trip is over. When we were 5 miles out, three big fire boats and a whole flotilla of craft met us for a fine escort to the docks. The fire boat nozzles were shooting streams high in the air!

As we approached the pier, Glacier received an eleven gun salute. A huge red banner said, "WELCOME HOME GLACIER". Bands played to a huge crowd, with TV choppers overhead. It was a stirring sight!

I met Captain Royce Garrett, Commander of the 13th Coast Guard District. He is also a ham, and once commanded an ice breaker. He was also well aware of our phone patch operation.

After the ship was all secured, I was informed that we are going to dinner at the Chart House, of the same restaurant group as the one on Maui. For dinner there was Captain Hammond, his wife and son, Captain Garrett, 13th District Commander, and his wife, Retired Admiral Hammond and his wife, Lieutenant

# SWAPFEST '99

South Milwaukee Amateur Radio Club, Inc.  
Saturday, July 10, 1999 -- 6:00 A.M.

American Legion Post 434  
9327 South Shepard Avenue, Oak Creek, WI  
Tickets \$5.00

Food and Drinks Available

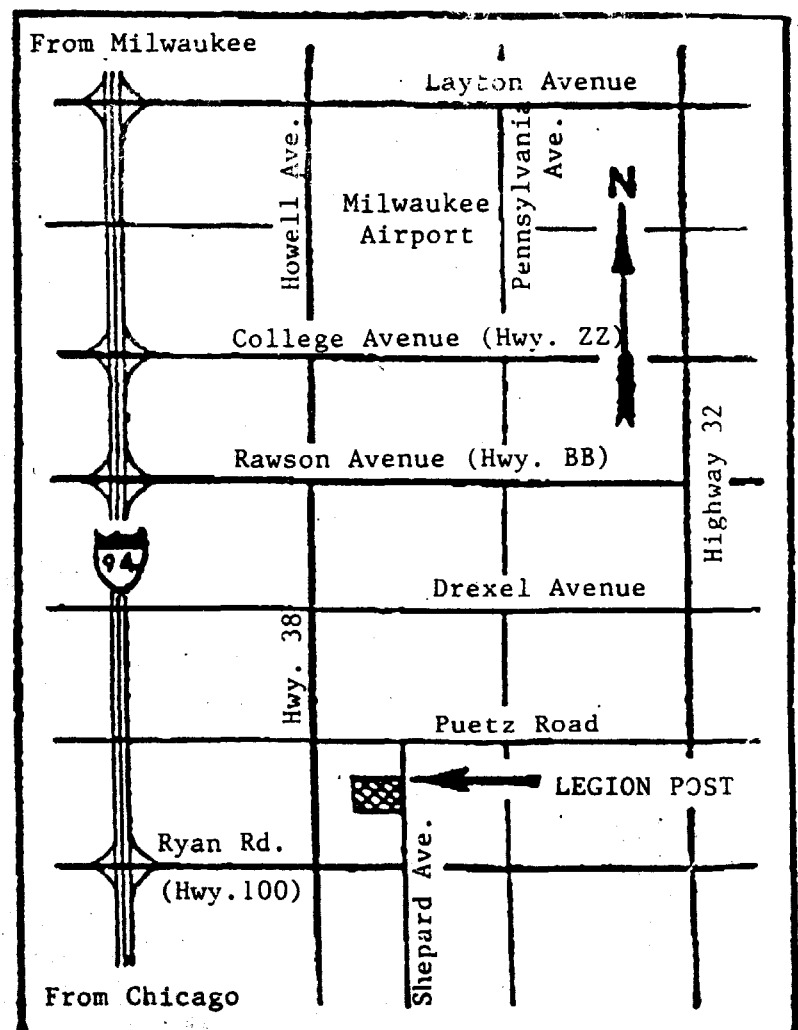
**HAPPY TIME - Free Beer and Free Soda**

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146.52 (WA9TXE)

For more information:  
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1st Prize	\$100.00
2nd Prize	\$75.00
3rd Prize	\$50.00
4th Prize	\$25.00

Hourly Prizes!!!





# PARTICIPATING CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

## Wisconsin Valley Radio Association

Kim Kunze, N9SDL, Secretary

P.O. Box 363 • Wausau, WI 54402

*Six Meter Repeater: 51.19 Input/52.89 Output*

### Meeting Minutes May 4, 1999

Meeting was called to order by KB9DED. Members present: N9NMH, N9IAB, N9LIA, N9TTA, N9MEA, KB9RXA, KB9FRB, KB9DZG, N9SDL, KB9RXB, W9WW, KB9MCZ, WD9CPY, N9YYU, N3FDE, KB9UCQ, KB9PVI.

Minutes as published in BSSS approved by N9MEA and W9WW. Treasurer's report approved by N9LIA and N9NMH.

### New Business

The following are the new officers:

Mike, KB9DED, President  
Don, W9WW, Vice President  
Mark, N9MEA, Treasurer  
Kim, N9SDL, Secretary

Don, W9WW, offered some Field Day

suggestions for consideration and action upon at the June meeting. One suggestion is to have someone coordinate getting some grills to the Camp Phillips site for a Saturday evening family gathering. Also to coordinate coolers, ice and soft drinks. It was also suggested that members attending toss in \$5 to cover the cost of the soft drinks and ice.

Also to be discussed at the June meeting will be securing a new Trustee for the W9SM club call and repeaters. The trustee of the call is responsible for any and all use of the W9SM call. The repeater trustee is responsible for the goings on of the repeater.

The evening's program was a Weather-spotting program put on by the National Weather Service out of Green Bay. It was an excellent program.

Adjournment N9LIA and W9WW.

*Respectfully submitted:  
Kim Kunze, N9SDL*



## SHEBOYGAN County Amateur Radio Club

Steve Eisold, AA9SJ, Secretary  
2220 N. 20th Street • Sheboygan WI 53083

*2-Meter Repeater: 147.06 Output*

### May 1999

The May meeting of the Sheboygan County Amateur Radio Club was called to order by Vice-president, Larry, WB9FXQ, at 7 p.m. local time.

There were 8 members present at the meeting. The SCARC meets every second Tuesday of the month at the Red Cross building, 2032 Erie Ave., Sheboygan. Due to a scheduling conflict the meeting was moved to the Muth conference room.

Steve, N9TRK, gave the treasurer's report, only one transaction this past month, the balance is \$907.05.

The Activity Award was won by Bob, KG9OM. He reports that band conditions on 10 and 15 meters have greatly improved. With the band conditions improving Mike, K9SJ, is experimenting with PSK31 on HF.

Mike comments that he is making solid QSOs with little or no signal being audibly heard.

We received a letter from the MS walk committee thanking us for the volunteer work the club did on April 18th. This was the first time this walk was held in Sheboygan and between 300-400 walkers participated without any trouble. (I neglected to add Ives, KB9QPM, to the list of volunteers in last month's minutes.)

Three operators from Sheboygan traveled north to Manitowoc to help with the MANCORAD operation of the special event station in the USS COBIA. Bob, KG9OM, said other than the tight space he had a great time, and they made over 600 contacts.

June 5th beginning at noon the antenna at the Red Cross building will be dismantled. We are looking for some people to help with ground work. Please contact any board member if you plan to attend.

Terms of the present club officers will expire at the end of June.

Nominations are now open for President, Vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer, and two executive board members. There have been a lot of ideas expressed this past year, now is your chance to get on the

board and put them in action. Nominate yourself or somebody else, but nominations have to be in by the next executive board meeting which is May 25th.

Forward your nomination to any board member or send to the SCARC snail mail address. Elections will be at the June membership meeting, new officers will be installed at Field Day. There will not be a July membership meeting.

Bob, KG9OM, gave a report about upcoming Field Day preparations.

Taylor Park will again be the sight of the club stations. Set up will be Friday evening about 6 p.m. At present there will be 3 HF stations operating, plus VHF, voice and data. Bob has a sign-up sheet for operating times.

Please contact him as soon as possible to lock in your times. These operators will have priority to the times they have chosen. We are still looking for a tent or trailer for shelter for one more station, if you have something to use please contact Bob.

Some upcoming public service events that the club has been involved with include: Holland Fest in Cedar Grove on July 17, we need 4 operators minimum and Old Plank Trail Walk is in September, here we need about 6 operators.

Meeting adjourned 8:20 p.m.

Just a reminder, if you use e-mail, consider signing up to the Sheboygan Hams mailing list. Just submit your e-mail address to: [julian@bongo.tele.com](mailto:julian@bongo.tele.com).

E-mail sent to: [shebbam@tele.com](mailto:shebbam@tele.com) will be forwarded to all listed subscribers. Thanks again to N6ARE for providing the mail server for SCARC use.

For those of you who are not on the web and have correspondence for the club, our address is: P.O. Box 1282, Sheboygan, WI 53082-1282.

### Net schedules

8 p.m. Monday nights, SCARC Fun Net, 147.06 PL 107.2, +.

*Respectfully submitted: Steve Eisold, AA9SJ*

## The Racine Megacycle Club

Club Station W9UDU • Racine, WI

Dennis Doonan, W9DAD, Secretary

c/o RMC • P.O. Box 3 • Racine, WI 54301-0003

e-mail: [w9udu@wi.net](mailto:w9udu@wi.net)

Web: <http://www2.wi.net/~hamradio/>

Voice mail: (414) 552-6RMC • ARRL Affiliated

Providing communications for American Red Cross and ARES

### Meeting Minutes April 12, 1999

On April 12, 1999, David Mack, Racine county director of emergency management presented a talk on Y2K preparedness.

The regular membership meeting of the Racine Megacycle Club Inc. was opened at 8:40 p.m. by Vice-President Bob, W9EH. President Rees, K9UUT, Secretary Dennis, W9DAD, and Activities Director Kevin, KB9LLV, were present.

W9EH announced the minutes of the April meeting have been approved by the board. W9EH read the treasurer's report.

For old business, President K9UUT summarized a letter from the RMC to Red Cross thanking them for the use of their facilities and promising our future cooperation.

K9UUT announced that starting July 12, 1999 our meetings will be held at the Gateway Technical College conference center in room R103.

KB9LLV updated the membership on future activities including the Amateur Radio auction on October 1 and the club picnic in August.

K9UUT again presented the board's decision to operator only two transmitters for the June 26 - 27, 1999 Field Day. The emphasis will be on simplified operation and attempt to approach Field Day the way it was done in past years.

KA9OIL made a motion that the meeting be adjourned at 8:52 p.m. KB9LLV seconded and the membership voted in favor.

*Submitted by Dennis, W9DAD, Secretary,  
Racine Megacycle Club*

## Quarter Century Wireless Association Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter 162

Larry McAlvy, WA9MHO  
5400 Six Mile Road  
Racine, WI 53402



Ken (N9NBC) and Marbeth Knoff have planted a bumper crop (I have been advised) for our Annual Mosquito Awareness Bash. The bash, schedule for Sunday, June 13th at the Knoff estate, 16616 12th Street, Paris, WI (Kenosha County, I-94 to Hwy "E" and then head West) begins at 1 pm. Attendees are asked to bring a dish to pass, their own meat to grill, and their

party spirits. Further details will be forthcoming on our weekly net, 147.270 MHz.

Field Day, the fourth weekend in June will again witness Chapter 162 roughing the elements and using QRP emergency power to communicate with the world. With gusto and fortitude we will seek the

Please turn to page 12



## VARI-NOTCH® DUPLEXERS FOR 2 METERS

The TX RX Systems Inc. patented Vari-Notch filter circuit, a pseudo-bandpass design, provides low loss, high TX to RX, and between-channel isolation, excellent for amateur band applications. TX RX Systems Inc. has been manufacturing multicoupling systems since 1976. Other models available for 220 and 440 MHz, UHF ATV and 1.2 GHz.

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92 dB ISOLATION AT 0.6 MHz SEPARATION  
400 WATT POWER RATING

### TX RX SYSTEMS INC.

Dave Barquist, K9PAK, Factory Representative  
414-367-2929 or E-Mail [txrx@electrodots.com](mailto:txrx@electrodots.com)



19" RACK MOUNT



## Texas codifies PRB-1; Wisconsin request made

Continued from front page

realize how much power they have when they do write," he said.

Hams in several other states also are contemplating measures to incorporate PRB-1 into their states' laws. A PRB-1 measure already has been introduced into the Maine legislature.

*The ARRL Letter*

## Wisconsin codification of PRB-1?

At a mid-April meeting with Wisconsin Rep. Joan Wade Spillner, a request was made of her to draft and introduce PRB-1 in the Assembly to make PRB-1 a state statute.

At the meeting with Don Evenson, K9JYX, and Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ, Rep. Spillner was provided with both verbal and written documentation to support the request. In order to preserve radio amateurs' public service communications ability, reasonable ordinances which regulate towers are vital. PRB-1, the FCC's Limited Doctrine of Federal Preemption, is intended to guide local units of government in constructing ordinances which preserve amateurs' ability to communicate effectively. PRB-1 does not dictate any absolutes. But codification at the state level

brings PRB-1 one level of government closer to local entities. That creates better local awareness of the existence of PRB-1 and the provisions it contains.

It is always easier to get a good law in the books than to try to fix a bad one later.

As of mid-May, nothing has been heard from Rep. Spillner. However, there are several much larger issues getting the legislature's attention. Nonetheless, prompt introduction is extremely important.

This was attempted two sessions ago (1995), but the bills went into the hopper too late. It may be helpful if you contact your state representative and senator now and ask that they support this effort.

The 1995 sponsor in the Senate was Sen. Rick Grobschmidt, and the bills in both chambers were "companion bills", meaning texts were identical; that is desirable. The Assembly sponsor was Rep. Ben Brancel, now head of the Department of Ag, Trade and Consumer Protection; Sen. Grobschmidt is still in the Senate.

The current legislators need to know why this is so important, not just to hams, but to the general public. And they need to hear or see it in your own words. Individually written letters are best; send them by postal service. Even a short note on a QSL card is useful. Be sure you also tell them that Rep. Spillner has this request in hand.

If we fail to provide a lot of support, this second effort will fail, too. Time to get out the pen and paper (or use the word processor) and write - now.

*Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ*

## Wisconsin Nets Association Ltd.

**Art Evans, KA9KLZ, Secretary**  
213 N. Jefferson • Cuba City WI 53807-1558

## WISCONSIN NETS

Net	WNA	Freq.	UTC	CDT	Manager
BWN	Yes	3985	1100	0600	W9RCW
BEN	Yes	3985	1700	1200	KE9VU
WSBN	Yes	3985	2230	1730	WB9WHQ
WNN	Yes	3723	2300	1800	KB9OCZ
WSSN	Yes	3645	2330	1830	N9BDL
WIN/E	Yes	3662	0000	1900	WB9ICH
WIN/L	Yes	3662	0300	2200	W9UW

RCRA	No	01/61 (Mondays CDT)	0030 (Menomonie Area)	1930	KA9OMC
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Gr. Bay	No	72/12 (Green Bay Area)	0245	2145	WB9NRK
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ARES	No	4.65/5.25 (South East/South Central Wisconsin)	0200	2100	
------	----	---	------	------	--

RACES	No	3993.5 (LSB Sunday)	1400	0900	WA9OAY
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### WISCONSIN NTS TRAFFIC REPORT

April - 1999

BWN	1070	1645	30	W9RCW	9RN
BEN	518	60	30	KE9VU	9RN
WSBN	563	84	29	WB9WHQ	9RN
WNN	123	19	30	KB9OCZ	9RN via WIN
WSSN	220	31	31	N9BDL	9RN
WIN-E	231	78	344	WB9ICH	9RN
WIN-L	171	54	30	W9UW	9RN
D9RN	311	176	53	AF9FA	CAN

### BPL

Station	ORIG	RCVD	SENT	DLVD	TOTAL
W9RCW	0	495	55	319	869
W9IHW	2	467	67	290	826
K9JPS	0	369	39	238	646
K9RTB	0	316	69	259	644

Thanks to all for your response to my taking over from Art in less than ideal circumstances last month. Since then, we've met and discussed more of the details; Art gave me some software for record keeping; I've had a chance to experiment with a few formats. As Art and I agreed, "In Wisconsin, the nets pretty much run themselves." I think we can continue the smooth transition. Net control stations are already routing the SARs and PSHRs to me, and ARRL was most gra-

cious in accepting my first set of reports. I'll be sending out the March BPL cards with the April mailing.

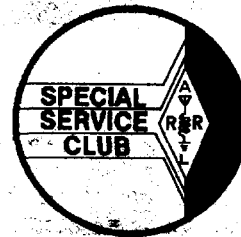
To keep my records current, I'm requesting a copy of the net roster from each of the net managers. Name, call, and location would do, but mailing addresses would be helpful. I know it takes time to get the data together, but I'll be patient.

As we enter severe weather season, it's a good chance to remind ourselves of what we do -- communicate, and how we

## Mancorad Radio Club

**Mary Langer, KB9GOY,  
Secretary**

**P.O. Box 204 • Manitowoc, WI  
54221-0204**



**2-Meter Repeater: 146.01 Input/146.61 Output**

**ManCoRad Minutes  
May 12, 1999**

clean-up. Contact Steve, N9PBL, for information.

The meeting was called to order by President Fred, W6BSF, at 7:34 p.m.

A correction was made to the April Meeting minutes. They were corrected to state that Janice, N9IQZ, did not make the Cobia certificate. Having been corrected the minutes were then approved with a motion by Red, N9GHE, and a second by Len, N9QFO.

Roger, W9NPX, gave the treasurer's report. It was approved as read with a motion by Dick, N9QFY, and a second by Red.

### Old Business

**Hamfest:** It was noted the May 8th Hamfest was a success and everyone had a good time visiting with friends. Fred was the lucky winner of the raffle prize. The Club wishes to thank Red and his hamfest crew for all of their hard work. Fred will be appointing a hamfest committee at the September meeting to begin planning for next years event.

**Glaeser:** John Glaeser, WB9ESM, is still in the Milwaukee Hospital. See the May issue of "Smoke Signals" for the address.

**Hamfest Banquet:** About 17 people attended the Banquet after the Hamfest at the Fawn. A nice time was had by all.

**Testing:** John, NZ9Z, reported two people tested at the Hamfest for licensing. They both passed.

**Cobia Event:** Fred reported that 653 contacts were made from the Cobia during the Submarine Event. He said they received some very nice compliments on the event. They did so well, they took first place among the 20 some participating subs. Fred is responding to all the QSL contacts. Operators for the event were: Fred (W6BSF), Tom (K0EFV), Eric (AF9J), Roger (W9NPX), KB9NTL, Ken (K9HAG), Mary (KB9GOY), John (NZ9Z), Bill (WD9ERN), Paul (AA9WI), Steve (N9PBL), Jerry (K9JHK), Bob (KG9OM), Art (K9XJ), Keith (KS9WI), Wes (KA9YAW, and Kevin (KB9SNE). Everyone is looking forward to next year's event.

**Field Day:** The Sheboygan and Green Bay Clubs have invited our Club members to participate in their events.

**Highway Clean-up:** Please listen to the nets on Sunday morning and Thursday evening for dates and times of the highway

### ATTENTION ALL CLUB MEMBERS

At the April Club meeting the members voted to get rid of all the magazines in the club room. It was decided that anyone who wanted some should stop at the club room after the meeting. There was a negative comment to this decision based on the fact that this did not follow the Club By-Laws. So all magazines have been returned. Notice is here by given that immediately following the September Club meeting anyone interested in taking any of the magazines should please do so.

For this purpose, the September meeting will be held in the Club room located in the basement of the Manitowoc City Hall at 7:30 p.m. the second Wednesday in September.

### New Business

John, NZ9Z, informed the club of the nice service the ARRL provides in mail forwarding. Check out the ARRL's web page for more information. It is under the members only section.

Also, John is the HF Awards Manager for WAS and other award programs. Contact him for more information.

WS9X was drawn for the attendance prize. Unfortunately, he was not at the meeting, so the prize increases by \$1.00.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm with a motion by Red and seconded by John.

### MEETING ATTENDANCE

W6BSF	Fred
W9NPX	Roger
N9IQZ	Janice
N9QFY	Dick
KB9KXE	Theresa
N4WGK	Denise
NZ9Z	John
N9GHE	Red
WB9VYO	Vic
N9XEZ	Bill
W9OMO	Ervin
KB9GRC	Tom
N9QFO	Len
N9WVN	Chuck
K9DUX	Bill
KB9GOX	Jim
AA9WI	Paul

do it -- clearly, accurately, and in a standard format so there's less chance of error. Traffic isn't limited to the formal messages we handle for practice. Sometimes it's a clear report of threatening weather via a VHF repeater using careful observations and reporting of time and location. When stations learn net discipline, it helps in every public-service event they support. We work on accuracy and efficiency because it has plenty of application throughout the hobby.

Many thanks to those who continue to their liaison efforts. Operators such as W9CBE, W9YCV, AF9FA, K9FHI, K9RTB, N9KHD, N9CK, W9UW, K9FA, N9IAI, and others who run the route to the ninth region and back keep our state connected with the NTS.

Please keep those station activity reports coming. If you can't catch me on the BEN, WSBN, WIN/E, or WIN/L, N9BDL has been helpful in bringing reports from the WNN, K9JPS and W9RCW, pick them up on the BWN, and our Assistant STM, W9CBE, will take 'em if I'm not around. Email is okay at K9L G U @ a r r l . n e t o r

onewish@compufort.com. If it's not here by the 6th of the month, it probably won't make the report.

Know anyone who wants to be added to the Email list for this report? Let me know. I'll be sending this report copied into the Email message, but if you have trouble reading it, let me know and I can send it as an attachment or in text-only format.

Thanks for keeping Wisconsin nets the best. 73.

**Dennis Rybicki, K9LGU**  
1050 East Street  
Fort Atkinson, WI 53538

**Got a story to tell? We've got a spot for it here in BSSS. Send it, with pictures, if any, to Jim Romelfanger, K9ZZ, Editor, 412 1/2 Ash Street, Baraboo WI 53913-2501, or email text to smokesigs@baraboo.com**



## Taylor County Area Amateur Radio Club

Mike Schoenfuss, N9GHZ, President

P. O. Box 401

Abbotsford, WI 54405

### MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

The next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, June 3 at 7 p.m. in the Emergency Government meeting room located in the basement of the sheriff's annex to the Taylor County Courthouse, corner of 2nd and Ogden Sts., Medford, WI. Talk-in on the 147.15 Medford repeater (+600 kHz) or 146.52 MHz simplex.

### MEETING AGENDA/PROGRAM

Potential topics of discussion include membership and financial status of the club.

### CLARK/TAYLOR COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICE (ARES) NEWS

Mike Schoenfuss, N9GHZ  
ARES Emergency Coordinator

✓ Don't forget to try to check into the weekly ARES net held Wednesdays at 8:30 p.m. on the Medford repeater (147.75/147.15). If the repeater is down or not functioning properly, alternate frequen-

cies, in order, are 147.15 MHz simplex and 146.52 MHz simplex. You're also encouraged to volunteer for net control duty for the net.

✓ Mark your calendars now for the annual J.A. O'Leary Memorial Bike Race and Tour, to be held on Saturday, August 14, 1999. Amateur radio communications will again be requested, and we will need many operators to cover this large event. For more information contact Cliff, AA9LE.

### CONGRATULATIONS TO....

✓ Dorthey Cook of Granton, WI, who qualified for a Technician Class license at the 5/1/99 VE exam session held in Medford, WI.

### OTHER NEWS

✓ The Taylor Co. Area Amateur Radio Club VE team held an exam session at the Taylor County Courthouse in Medford, WI on May 1, 1999. Volunteer examiners participating in administering exams were N9GEN, N9GHZ and AA9LE. There was just one candidate for testing, but she was successful. See the item above.

✓ Current TCAARC club membership stands at eleven. □

## QCWA Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter 162

Continued from page 10

rare DX as we shout to the cosmos "CQ Field Day, de K9AKG".

Our congratulation to Ron Fox, KB9-TXB, on obtaining his old call, K9AKH. Ron will be joining us officially with his acceptance into QCWA National's family. Ron's Dad, Olie, originally held our Club Call K9AKG.

Our intergenerational Fair participation as reported in last month's article has gone by the wayside. The elementary school children were just too young and too excited to "talk" via two-meters. The children would said "Hi" into the microphone and then bound away to another exhibit before their greeting could be acknowledged.

I would like to take this opportunity to say Thanks to the volunteers examiners who faithfully and diligently gave their

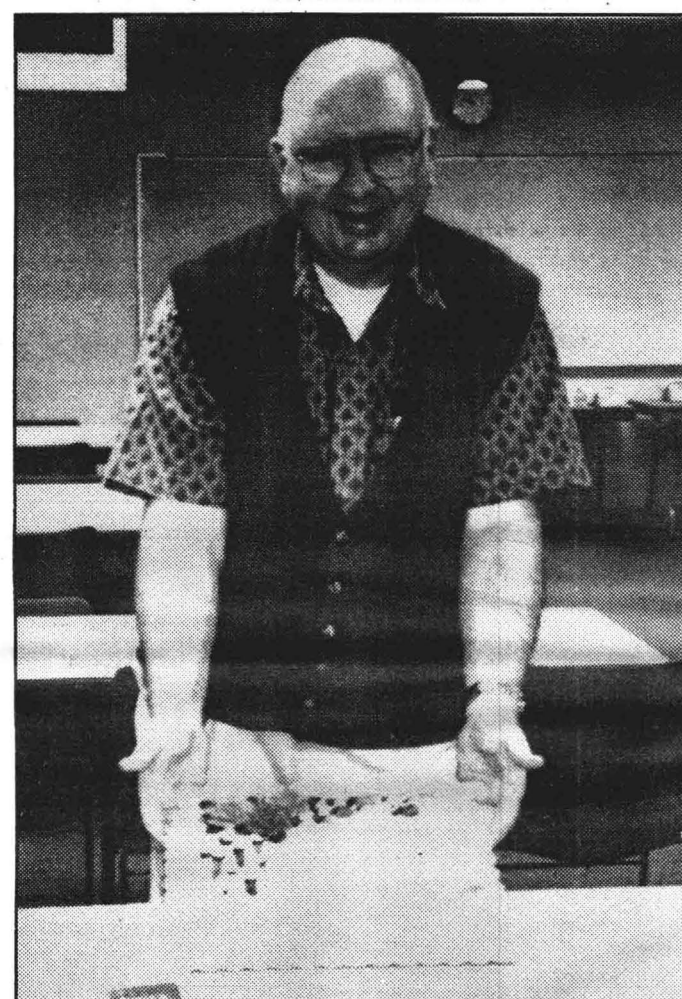
time, effort and energy to Racine's Amateur Radio testing team. Test records have been meticulously maintained from October 1985, when Bill Firchow, NW9P took the helm until the present. The group held 127 test sessions, serving 783 candidates and administered 1179 tests. There were 695 passed exams with 359 individuals receiving their initial license or upgraded. The 22 volunteer examiners who have kept the program alive and viable in Racine are: Bob Gorsiski, WA9BDX; Jerome Wilear, KB9BJV; Clarence Schultz, WS0C; Joel LePouce, AA9CN; Dennis Doonan, W9DAD; Gary Peterson, AD5H; Frank Holtz, KB9HHM; Dave Geschke, AA9HL; Rick Trapp, N9JT; Lee McKnight, N9VNU; Spencer Clope, W9LDH; Fern Fisher, W9LCJ; Ray Wolfe, K9RI; Dan Miller, KA9OIL; Bill Firchow, NW9P; Cheryl Miller, WS9P; Kenny Kuchar, N9WHR; Bob Jensen, W0WLN; Steve Bellgraph, K9ZL; Dick Larson, NW9M; and Arne Moxness, KA9ZPY. To each of you, many thanks from your Ham community.

73, Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO

## Mack, was that cake as good as it looks?

The Wisconsin Department of Emergency Management honored Duane "Mack" Brophy, N9NTB, for his countless hours of dedication as volunteer Amateur Radio Liaison in the DEM ham shack in Madison. Please accept our thanks, too, Mack, on behalf of the citizens of Wisconsin, who are the real beneficiaries of your hard work. You earned that cake!

Info and photo courtesy of Al Wohlfred, Wisconsin DEM



## MFJ buys Hy-Gain

MFJ Enterprises has announced it has acquired Hy-Gain Antennas, Towers, and Rotators for Amateur Radio. The acquisition was official on May 10, 1999.

Hy-Gain will remain a separate entity with separate management, employees and manufacturing facility in Starkville, MS. The company will continue the entire product line that is currently being manufactured, plus it will introduce several new products, including two new vertical antennas.

Hy-Gain of Starkville will immediately selling the entire product through Amateur Radio dealers worldwide. There will be a small transition period as stock, parts, equipment, and production are moved to Starkville.

Hy-Gain can be contacted calling (800) 647-1800, or by FAX at (601) 323-6551. Watch for more exciting Hy-Gain news through MFJ's Website:

<http://www.mfjenterprises.com>



## Final journey of the USCG icebreaker "Glacier": Part 6

Continued from page 9

Keith Johnson, Mike and I. It was a fine dinner, and most enjoyable. I was quite flattered and honored to be included this last evening with such distinguished company. Their obvious quality, and a complete absence of any "airs" was to me, very impressive.

Now, I am all packed, and Mike and I talked for a long time, I am thinking of tomorrow when I must say goodbye to Mike and Glacier. It will not be easy..

2200 - 10 April

I am home after almost five weeks and 24 days at sea. Got up early, and had a last breakfast aboard. Mike took off to get his car, and I lugged my baggage up on deck. It started to rain and was quite gloomy. Bidding farewell to this great ship was very difficult.

I said goodbye to as many people as I could find, took a last look, and then we headed for the airport. Picked up my ticket, checked in, and Mike and I ate another breakfast, and it was time to go. I had a rough time saying goodbye. Mike did too. We had

spent more time together than we had in years, and got to know each other all over again. And I came to know first hand the real extent of his intelligence, abilities, and what a really fine, competent officer he has become.

And now, this journal is officially ended. I shall treasure this rare experience, especially because I was, to all intents and purposes, a part of Glacier's crew, if only for a short while. I am glad that I was able to participate, and contribute to the operations of this fine ship during her final voyage home. It is difficult to express one's feelings, and I suspect, many would not understand how one can become attached to a ship and crew that, through a long and illustrious term of faithful service under the harshest of conditions, somehow acquires a personality of its own, and only deepens the feelings when that brilliant career must end.

Tomorrow, I will begin the task of sending QSL cards, along with an official Letter of Commendation from Glacier's Captain, to all those dedicated stations that handled a total of 535 phone patches! Although her engines are now silent, to rumble no more, it is certain that Glacier will live on in the memories of all who served aboard her, including me. It is truly a memory to be treasured.

And finally, the greatest treasure, a month spent with son Mike. We were never closer than we were for this time aboard the Glacier. I guess it is obvious that I am a very proud father. It was truly the experience of a lifetime. □

## List of Phone Patch Stations

### With Thanks

Patch stations handling phone patches from the USCGC Glacier during her last transit from Sidney, Australia to Portland, Oregon:

Call	Location
Gerarc, KE7CF	Beaverton, OR
George, W6FJT	Pacific Palisades, CA
Cris, WA7PHI	North Bend, OR
Al, W7EMZ	Seattle, WA
John, KH6JJC	Hawaiian Islands
Pinky, NX5R	(Address unknown)
Bud, KH6GNJ	Hawaiian Islands
John, WA7CYB	Glendale, AZ
Lee, WA7PMC	New Holland, PA
John, WB6LYR	Fresno, CA
Suzy, WB7WPM	Spokane, WA
Fred, W3WZU	Philly Area, PA
Paul, WB8ONA	Chicago, IL
June, KT8P	(Central Ohio)

Special thanks are extended to these people for their untiring dedication to Glacier's crew and the crew's families. These and other radio amateurs give a great deal of their time, use of their equipment, and sometimes even their dollars to keep the service personnel of Glacier and other vessels in contact with their loved ones. That work melts away the miles and warms the hearts of everyone. To say it is appreciated would be an understatement.



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF CENTRAL WISCONSIN RADIO AMATEURS, LTD.

At University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point



WB9QFW 2-Meter Repeater 146.07-.67 and Club Station

2229 Dixon Street • Stevens Point, WI 54481

### Meeting Minutes May 12, 1999

Vice President, Jerry Fadness, W9GF, called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. A motion was made to accept the minutes as printed in *Badger State Smoke Signals* by Joe Larson, N9JW, and seconded by Art Wysoski, N9BCA. The motion passed.

Jerry reviewed the Treasurer's Report. A motion was made by Art, N9BCA, and seconded by Joe, N9JW, to approve them as read. The motion passed.

Bob Baird, W9NN, reported on the paperwork that was filled out for WAR on our repeater. The only time this paperwork would need to be done again would be if we would ever move the repeater to a new location. The repeater is operating well and Bob said that Ron is waiting for an updated list of members to make any additional changes to the AutoDial numbers. Mary Eiden, KG9OK, said she had talked to Ron and told him she would send him a new updated list.

Jerry said he talked with Al Mallek, K9WVM, before the meeting and Al informed him that there are some problems with the 67 Repeater. We will need volunteers to work on the problem once it is determined what is happening with it and Al is looking at Saturday, May 22 for a date to do the work.

Mike Peters, W9CO, reported that he did not get any responses from the vendors he sent letters to. We will have to decide how we want to proceed on future swapfests. Mike suggested that we possibly look into the idea of getting together with other clubs to host a swapfest. We will be discussing this item at future meetings to determine what our next step will be concerning a swapfest.

Joe Larson, N9JW, reported that the Wisconsin Special Olympics will be holding their state summer games in Stevens

Point on June 10, 11, and 12 and he looking for volunteers. There will be volunteer orientation on Monday, June 6 and Tuesday, June 7. For additional information or to sign up to work for the games, members can contact Joe.

Mike Eiden, N9MI, reported that the test materials for the June 5 test session have been ordered. The testing will be held in Room A-107 of the UWSP Science Building and will begin at 9 a.m. We have four volunteer examiners lined up and Jerry informed Mike that he is working on getting some additional examiners to help out. If you are a VE and are interested in helping out, contact Mike. His e-mail address is [n9mi@g2a.net](mailto:n9mi@g2a.net).

Art Wysocki, N9BCA, reported that preparations for Field Day are going smoothly. This event will be held at Art's. There will be more information at the June meeting.

Kathy Mallon, KG9NX, resigned as Activities Manager. There is now a vacancy for this position. If any one is interested in filling it, contact one of the club officers. A motion was made for adjournment by Art, N9BCA, and seconded by Joe, N9JW. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Eiden, KG9OK  
CWRA Secretary

### ATTENDANCE

Mary Eiden	KG9OK
Jerry Fadness	W9GF
Mike Eiden	N9MI
Joe Larson	N9JW
Jan Rydberg	KB9RUJ
Mike Peters	W9CO
Bob Baird	W9NN
Art Wysocki	N9BCA

## FCC spikes restructuring rumors at Dayton

The big FCC announcement about Amateur Radio license restructuring that many hams erroneously had been expecting at the Dayton Hamvention turned out to be that there would be no announcement. Speaking to a packed house at the Sunday FCC forum at Dayton Hamvention, Bill Cross, W3TN, of the FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau spiked rumors that the FCC would have something substantive to say at Dayton about Amateur Radio restructuring, WT Docket 98-143.

"I can confirm without reservation that the rumors that have been flying fast and furious as to what the Commission has decided or will decide are just rumors," he said. According to Cross, the Commission had not decided anything as of May 13. Cross said the FCC received 2250 comments from the amateur community in the proceeding. Comments have been read and filed, he said. Some comments continue to straggle in, although the deadline passed in January.

Cross offered his take on what the FCC might do, inferring that the Commission would propose either three or four license classes, no more, no less.

Based on the comments received, Cross said, many hams believe amateur examinations are not testing on the correct information. He invited hams to suggest questions to the Question Pool Committee, the body that comes up with the questions that appear on amateur exams. Suggested questions go to QPC Chairman Ray Adams, W4CPA, 6702 Matterhorn Ct, Knoxville TN 37918-6314. A copy to Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, ARRL VEC, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111, would be appreciated.

Cross said comments on Morse code testing standards "drew the most passionate responses." The League has suggested 5 WPM and 12 WPM testing tiers. Cross said those expecting a new top speed above 20 WPM would be disappointed, but he offered no other predictions on how the Commission might act on the CW requirements issue.

Cross also said the Universal Licensing System would be going into effect for Amateur Radio later this year, and it will incorporate the vanity call sign program. The system will replace the venerable Form 610 series with a new, inclusive electronic document known as Form 605. ULS will permit amateurs to file applications, modifications or renewals via the Internet.

Individual hams will not be required to file electronically, however. He encouraged hams to register for the ULS.

For more information, visit the FCC's Amateur Radio page, <http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/amateur/>.

The ARRL Letter

## RED CEDAR REPEATER ASSOCIATION, INC.

STEVE HART, KA9OMC, SECRETARY

E616 810TH AVENUE

KNAPP, WI 54749

2-Meter Repeater: 146.01 Input/146.61 Output

Greetings, RCRA sponsors and guests. Thanks to KB9NIR, Scott, and his mother, Bev, for helping host our annual spring thrift sale at Cedar Falls. N9PPE, Jeff, donated a music organ, while KF9-CU, Arlene, found some clothes to donate. Our proceeds were \$17.25. Thanks to all.

KB9TAC, Andy, reports he has earned a trip to Badger Boys State, and will also be busy with summer marching band.

KB9SGY, David Garnett, is looking for a VHF/UHF SWR bridge, a frequency counter, and an oscilloscope. Reach him at (715) 874-6570.

N9FVA, Chuck Thomas, has been volunteering with meals on wheels.

K9KGB, Bill Duncan, is busy following the national girls softball tourney in Eau Claire. KG0KM, Ralph at Eau Claire, attended the Dayton Hamvention, and

reports seeing several other hams from Eau Claire.

KB9QGK, Deena, and KB9LUK, James Kinney, have been busy turning out the RCRA 25th anniversary T-shirts. If you would like a shirt, contact the secretary for an order blank.

N9PPE, Jeff Cole at Bloomer, recently used an abandoned utility pole in his yard for some TV antenna installation. Jeff also helped with the local EAA chapter breakfast at the Eau Claire airport.

See you all at the Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club's annual hamfest on July 10. Contact Jim at (715) 838-9108 for more details, and look for our RCRA group in the parking lot tailgate area.

Steve Hart, KA9OMC  
RCRA Secretary/Treasurer

## FCC'S Hollingsworth is Dayton's man of the hour

The FCC's Riley Hollingsworth, K4-ZDH, exhorted a standing-room-only crowd at the Dayton Hamvention to "read over the basis and purpose of Amateur Radio and the rules in Part 97" and to operate as if youngsters and overseas stations might be listening in. He made the remarks Friday during the first of two FCC forums in Hara Arena.

Calling Amateur Radio "an American institution," Hollingsworth momentarily assumed the mantle of the ham radio evangelist. Ham radio, he said, is "not about the First Amendment, it's not about slandering somebody you don't like, it's not about ridiculing somebody who's operating 10 kHz away, it's not about jamming or obscenity." Nor, he said, is it intended to be a talk show or an "electromagnetic forum for hate groups" or "an audio version of The Jerry Springer Show."

Hollingsworth called the on-air activities of some hams "childish and stupid" and said the hobby does not always present its best face to the world. He also said hams need to understand that demand for HF spectrum in countries outside the US is increasing.

"Too many in our service take the allocations for granted," he said. "Some of the Third World countries would love to have 75 meters as a national telephone system," he said. What does transpire on some amateur frequencies "is often an international embarrassment," he said.

"What kind of service is it when you're afraid to leave on the radio in the house or the car?" he asked. Hollings-

worth said he even knew of a young Extra class amateur whose parents won't let him on 75 meters.

He asked law-abiding hams to not retaliate against hams who are offensive on the air or who break the law but to shun them instead. He also challenged each ham to recruit one newcomer into the hobby or to help another licensee to upgrade. Hollingsworth especially encouraged recruiting young girls into Amateur Radio. He delivered similar remarks during two other Dayton forums and received an enthusiastic reception -- including a standing ovation.

In response to a question from the audience, Hollingsworth revealed that FCC officials on May 14 had attempted to visit the station of Glenn Baxter, K1MAN, in Belgrade Lakes, Maine. Baxter heads the American Amateur Radio Association; his on-the-air talk and news transmissions have been the subject of some controversy within the amateur community. Hollingsworth said that, although Baxter's station was on the air, no one came to the door, and the building appeared to be locked.

Hollingsworth and an FCC field office team from Detroit spent several hours doing enforcement work at the Hamvention itself. The field office personnel attempted, without success, to determine the sources of intentional interference on the Hamvention's 2-meter talk-in frequency. At least one source appeared to be mobile. FCC personnel also cited or verbally warned several vendors about violations related to the sale of amplifiers.

The ARRL Letter

## APRS on circus train

APRS, the Automatic Packet Reporting System, will be on board the Great Circus Train during its four-day journey July 2 - 5. In conjunction with an on-board GPS receiver, position packets will be sent on a regular basis as the train moves through the Wisconsin countryside. This will be the first year for this added service, so there may be a "glitch" or two. If all works as expected, packeteers may tune to 144.39 and watch for those packets.

APRS software is available at the TAPR Web site, [www.tapr.org](http://www.tapr.org). This is very preliminary information. We are not totally sure of this operation at press time.

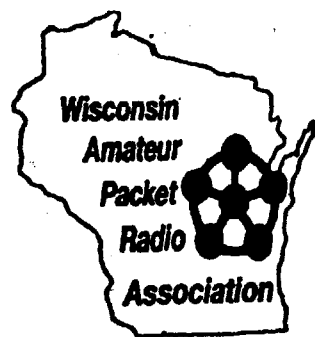
There is also a Web site where those positions can be seen with APRS+, WinAPRS, or MacAPRS: [www.N9UUR/imc.mu.edu](http://www.N9UUR/imc.mu.edu).

The call sign of the train's APRS UI (unproto) beacons is not yet known.

Thanks to Ron Armstrong, WB9WRW, for most of the info above!

Did you like a story you saw here in BSSS? Please tell the writer and/or photographer. They will be glad to hear from you!





# THE WISCONSIN PACKETEER

Wisconsin Amateur Packet Radio Association

Allen Schnepf, NØGMJ, Treasurer

Ogema, WI 54459

Andy Nemec, KB9ALN, Editor • 453 Cottage Grove Avenue • Green Bay, WI 54304 • e-mail: kb9aln@juno.com

## WAPR News - June, 1999

Hello, everyone. I hope your May was a good one, and your outdoor Amateur Radio activities have been blessed by good weather.

Not too much news in the packet radio world here in Wisconsin. As I mentioned last month, we are still looking to put a meeting together in the very near future. We are still working out the details of our treasurer switch, which we'd like to have completed before we have the meeting.

When we do have this all worked out, we will certainly get the word out through the packet system, and any other way we can. Naturally, it will appear here if scheduling permits.

We do have a special topic this month to deal with, however. In talking with our Chairman Joel N9BQM, he mentioned that he'd like to see a change in BBS message routing specification here in Wisconsin.

What is at issue is the way we send "flood" messages here in Wisconsin. Currently, when we wish to send a message to every BBS in Wisconsin, we send it "@RTWIS". This has been taken to mean "Route Wisconsin", and has been around for as long as I have been involved in packet radio. This is somewhere around 7 years or so, and I know it has been around even longer than that.

I suspect this went all the way back to the beginnings of packet mail forwarding as we know it in Wisconsin. Someone decided we needed a term to represent "every BBS in the state", so they came up with it. Unfortunately, it did not catch on in the rest of the country. In every other state in the country, it seems they use the word "ALL" followed immediately by the state's 2-letter abbreviation. In the case of Michigan, it would be "ALLMI". Illinois would be "ALLIL", etc. It's our observation that this is nearly universal.

This does make sense. In a word where we are limited to a certain number of letters to represent routing, it only makes sense to do it as others. One reason is that the RT in RTWIS is kind of redundant. The BBS knows it is routing messages. Kind of a tiny sticking point, of course.

But another reason we may want to do this is simple conformity. All of the other states use this method. Which alone is not a good enough reason. However, people are mobile, and will come to visit our state. If a visiting (or relocating) packeteer decides to send a flood message throughout the state, then it is nice to know that the BBS would accept and forward a "ALLWI" message. There will be little adaptation with this kind of system. The former packet stranger uses something he or she is used to and adapts quickly.

Of course Joel is not proposing to make this change overnight, and does not want to see a "prohibition" applied to RTWIS. He is proposing that all BBS sysops in the state set up their forwarding files to accept ALLWI messages and forward them in the same manner as RTWIS messages are forwarded.

I will be incorporating this change in the Green Bay BBS ASAP.

There are reasons for standards; they attempt to make systems work more efficiently. Packet certainly needs more efficiency and standardization is key to helping it be more efficient.

You will notice something on this page that helps to illustrate this point. We've reprinted the Tuscon Amateur Packet Radio Association's document on BBS Addressing. In the past, there has been a lot of controversy surrounding this document, partly because it involved large-scale change on the part of the operators of the BBS forwarding network.

Although it is a little dry in parts, it has a couple of good resources in it. It has a couple of tables in it that may be of interest to you. One is a list of all of the countries and their forwarding designators. The other is a 4-letter code for continents. Oddly enough, the 4th letter is what caused all of the ruckus.

Do take note that this document is old, and some things may have changed. But the basic info does apply these days. I hope you find it interesting and the charts useful.

And that is all for this month. Until next time, 73 from Andy.

## BBS Hierarchical Addressing Protocol

This is a reprint of an official document from the Tuscon Amateur Packet Radio society spelling out the correct way to determine a BBS Hierarchical Address. This organization (TAPR) has long been involved in developing and creating standards for Amateur Packet Radio.

### BBS Hierarchical Addressing Protocol

Authors: Dave Wolf, W05H  
Roy Engchausen, AA4RE  
Hank Oredson, W0RLI  
Greg Jones, WD5IVD

Date: August 30th, 1994

Adopted by TAPR: March 3rd, 1995

Send Updates to Attached Tables to:  
Dave Wolf, W05H  
Packet: wo5h@wo5h.#dfr.tx.usa.noam

Internet: wo5h@tapr.org  
Fax: (817) 295-6232

### Introduction

The TAPR BBS Special Interest Group recommends the adoption of the x.3.4 hierarchical address protocol.

After discussion of previous articles on hierarchical addressing standards (1,2) and taking into account international issues of regional/state name sizes, the TAPR BBS Special Interest Group recommends the adoption of the x.3.4 standard on an international basis. x is defined as 2, 3, or 4 letter region names as defined by the country.

### Examples of x.3.4:

@WA6QVD.CA.USA.NOAM  
@EA2CMO.EAZ.ESP.EURO  
@F5JGK.FAQI.FRA.EURO

Regional identifiers may be duplicated in different countries (i.e. AK, Alaska, USA, could be used in another country as a regional identifier); however, Country and Continental identifiers SHOULD NOT be used as regional names.

It is important to note that there is a distinct and significant difference between HIERARCHICAL ADDRESSES and FLOOD DESIGNATORS. Hierarchical address elements are common to all messages (bulletins, P and T types) and are the foundation of the digital forwarding system. Flood designators are used for routing and filtering bulletins. Geographical flood designators are likely based upon hierarchical address elements. It is therefore important that any attempt to establish standards concentrate first on hierarchical address elements. Standards for flood designators can follow.

It is the purpose of this document to generate a changing recommendation that reflects current hierarchical routing. Reference Tables at the end will be changed as necessary to reflect current configurations within the international BBS network. These tables will need to be changed and updated in order to meet future needs of user and sysops.

### Hierarchical Routing Syntax Summary

This summary uses a modified Backus-Naur form to summarize the syntax for hierarchical addressing. [] = optional

@hierarchical\_address  
bbs.[#octothorpe.][region.]country.continent

bbs  
valid callsign as defined by local communications authority

#octothorpe.  
#area.[#octothorpe.]

#area  
area as defined by the local region. See Table 4 for a list of current area identifiers.

region  
2,3, or 4 character region identifier as defined by the country. See Table 3 for a list of region identifiers.

country  
3 character country identifier as defined by ANSI X.12 and EDIFACT. Published in ISO 3166-1981(E/F). See Table 2 for country identifiers

continent  
4 character continental identifier. See Table 1 for continental identifiers.

### Examples:

F6CNB.#SETX.TX.USA.NOAM  
KB7WE.#WWA.WA.USA.NOAM  
OH6RBV.#VAA.FIN.EURO  
SK2AT.AC.SWE.EURO  
OH6RBG.FIN.EURO  
KE7KD.#NONEV.NV.USA.NOAM  
WX3K.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NOAM

### References:

1. Jenkins, Lew (N6VV), Dave Toth (VE3GYQ), and Hank Oredson (W0RLI). International Routing Designators. Proceedings of the ARRL 7th Computer Networking Conference. Columbia Maryland. October 1, 1988. pp. 91-93.
2. Clark, Tom (W3IWI). Some comments on the 'H'ierarchical Continent Address Designator. Proceedings of the ARRL 9th Computer Networking Conference. London, Ontario Canada. September 22, 1990. pp. 278-279.

### TABLE 1: Continent Identifiers

EURO -- Europe  
MEDR -- Mediterranean  
INDI -- Indian Ocean including the Indian subcontinent

MDLE -- Middle East  
SEAS -- South-East Asia  
ASIA -- The Orient  
NOAM -- North America (Canada, USA, Mexico)  
CEAM -- Central America  
CARB -- Caribbean  
SOAM -- South America  
AUNZ -- Australia/New Zealand  
EPAC -- Eastern Pacific  
NPAC -- Northern Pacific  
SPAC -- Southern Pacific  
WPAC -- Western Pacific  
NAFR -- Northern Africa  
CAFR -- Central Africa  
SAFR -- Southern Africa  
ANTR -- Antarctica

### TABLE 2: Country Identifiers

ARG -- Argentina  
AUS -- Australia  
AUT -- Austria  
BEL -- Belgium  
BMU -- Bermuda  
BOL -- Bolivia  
BRA -- Brazil  
BRN -- Brunei  
BGR -- Bulgaria  
CAN -- Canada  
CHL -- Chile  
CHN -- China  
COL -- Colombia  
CRI -- Costa Rica  
CUB -- Cuba DNK -- Denmark  
DOM -- Dominican Republic  
ECU -- Ecuador  
EGY -- Egypt  
SLV -- El Salvador  
FIN -- Finland  
FRA -- France  
PYF -- French Polynesia  
DEU -- Germany  
GRC -- Greece  
GRL -- Greenland  
GTM -- Guatemala  
HTI -- Haiti  
HND -- Honduras  
HKG -- Hong Kong  
HUN -- Hungary  
ISL -- Iceland  
IND -- India  
IDN -- Indonesia  
IRL -- Ireland  
ISR -- Israel  
ITA -- Italy  
JPN -- Japan  
PRK -- Korea, North  
KOR -- Korea, South  
LBN -- Lebanon  
LIE -- Liechtenstein  
LUX -- Luxembourg  
MYS -- Malaysia  
MEX -- Mexico  
MCO -- Monaco  
MAR -- Morocco  
NLD -- Netherlands  
NZL -- New Zealand  
NIC -- Nicaragua  
NOR -- Norway  
PAK -- Pakistan  
PAN -- Panama  
PRY -- Paraguay  
PER -- Peru  
PHL -- Philippines  
POL -- Poland  
PRT -- Portugal  
ROM -- Romania  
SAU -- Saudi Arabia  
SGP -- Singapore  
ZAF -- South Africa  
ESP -- Spain  
SWE -- Sweden  
CHE -- Switzerland  
SYR -- Syria  
TWN -- Taiwan  
THA -- Thailand  
TUR -- Turkey  
GBR -- United Kingdom USA -- United States  
URY -- Uruguay  
SUN -- USSR ??? (Document needs latest definitions)  
VEN -- Venezuela  
YUG -- Yugoslavia

Space considerations did not allow all the tables to be included in this issue of BSSS. We will try to have the remaining tables in the next issues of BSSS.



## THE TEST POINT

(Continued from page 3)

## MEDFORD, WI (ARRL/VEC)

Taylor County Area AREC. Registration starts 8:30 a.m., testing starts 9:00 a.m. Location: The conference room in the lower level of the Sherireet. PLEASE use the entrance on the south side of the courthouse and watch of the signs. Walk-ins welcome. Contact: Tom Hrdina, N9GEN, 2373 Willow Ave., Medford, WI 54451. (715) 748-4054

## PEWAUKEE, WI

The location is a little more handicap accessible, room S112 in the back of the science building by the handicap parking entrance. WCTC is on Hwy JJ off Hwy 16 from the East I-94 and Hwy T from West I-94 just north of GE Medical Systems. Tests start at 9:00 AM and registration ends at 10:00 AM. Contact: Al Johnson, AA7CS, (414) 568-0836; Roger Bradley, AA90J, (414) 691-3089 or SEWFARS Repeater club c/o Jam Lazachek, KF9GG (414) 650-0724.

## HUDSON, WI (ARRL/VEC)

Sponsor: St. Croix Valley AR Testing Col. Time: Call for time and walk-in info, Contact: Gregory Miller (715) 386-9857

Location: St. Croix County Emergency, Government Center by jail, Carmichael Rd. lower level, Hudson, WI 54016. (Information tnx ARRL Web site)

## FRIENDSHIP, WI (ARRL/VEC)

Sponsor: Adams County ARC. Location: Adams-Columbia electric Cooperative (Community Room), 410 E. Lake St., Friendship, WI 53934. Contact: Karl Simonson, KB9EQI, (608) 565-6533. kb9eqi@iname.com

## CEDARBURG, WI - ORC HAMFEST

## EAU CLAIRE, WI - ECARCHAMFEST

## GREEN BAY, WI - ARES HAMFEST

## HAYWARD, WI - HAYWARD HAMFEST

## KAUKAUNA, WI - SWAPFEST

## MANITOWOC, WI, LAKESHORE HAMFEST

## OAK CREEK, WI - SMARCHAMFEST

## RACINE, WI - RACINE HAMFEST

## RHINELANDER, WI - NWARC SWAPFEST

## ROCKFORD, IL - RARCHAMFEST

## ROTHSCHILD, WI - WVRA HAMFEST

## SOUTH MILWAUKEE, WI - SMARCHAMFEST

## WAUKESHA, WI - KMRA SWAPFEST

## WAUKESHA, WI - MIDWINTER SWAPFEST

## DUBUQUE, IA - HAMFEST

See the Swapfest column for additional information and contact persons.

## DUBUQUE, IA - ARRL/VEC

Dubuque Hamfest. Contact: Carl Clark, N0KAX, 2145 Delicia Drive, Dubuque, IA 52001. (319) 557-9149.

## ROCKFORD/LOVES PARK, IL

Third Saturday of every month.

Northern Illinois Volunteer Examiners (W5YI VEC). Held at North Suburban District Library, 6340 North Second St. (Hwy. 251), Loves Park, IL. 9:00 a.m. to noon. No new applicants after 11:00 a.m. Walk-ins welcome. Contact: Rusty Cordell, WB9QYV, 1823 Hulin St., Rockford, IL 61102-2619. (815) 968-0080. e-mail WB9QYV@aol.com



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## Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club



WB9FDZ (Original Club Call)  
K9ODK (Robert L. Prine Memorial Call)

Raymond J. Matlosz, N9MLZ, Secretary  
450 West 2nd Street • Reedsburg, WI 53959

The May 6, 1999 meeting of the Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club Inc., was called to order at 7:15 p.m. following the alleged fox hunt by club president Steve Schulze, N9UDO.

Minutes for the April 6, 1999 meeting was approved as was the financial report.

ANNOUNCEMENT: The planned fox hunt resulted in an apparent three way tie with no winner.

OLD BUSINESS: Generator update: we "may have" sold the generator. negotiations continue as there were some unexpected expenses involved with the transaction. The club YASEU 401DX was not taken to the Madison swapfest as planned. Motion was made and accepted to place an ad in BSSS.

NEW BUSINESS: The members present voted to continue meeting on the first Tuesday of the month. Arrangements will be made to reserve a room at the Baraboo Civic Center for the remainder of the year. It was suggested that an e-mail reminder be sent to members a week before the scheduled meeting. Discussion on the August 14 swapfest. Discussed the upcoming field day. Club secretary to send letter to the Columbia county sheriff. Pete Sweeney, WD9JIB passed around a sign-up sheet for those interested in volunteering to help out with communications on New Years Eve. Tim Seive will be invited to speak to the club for the June meeting.

Dave Spearing, KB9CSW volunteered to be buck night winner and graciously donated the money to the FIELD DAY FOOD & BEVERAGE FUND. Thanks Dave! Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Next Meeting is Tuesday June 1, 1999 at 7:30 p.m. at the Baraboo Civic Center

The following members were present:

Steve Schulze	N9UDO	Baraboo
Jim Paul	N9LKY	Baraboo
Thomas Harrison	N9PQJ	Reedsburg
Raymond Matlosz	N9MLZ	Reedsburg
Anne Klinkner	N9PQL	Sauk City
Bill Klinkner	N9KOK	Sauk City
Patrick Klinkner		Sauk City
Dave W. Spearing	KB9CSW	Portage
Wayne Burgess	N9UDX	Lodi
Bill Hommel	KA9QFJ	Baraboo
Ken Johnson	K9DZG	Mazomanie
Peter Sweeney	WD9JIB	Reedsburg
George Gabay	N9QQR	New Lisbon
Leonard Wagner	N9XJG	Baraboo

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Street: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ ST: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Tables - 8 ft x 2 1/2 ft \$ 10.00 QTY \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Admission Tickets \$ 6.00 QTY \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Raffle Tickets 6 for \$ 5.00 QTY \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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South Milwaukee, WI 53172

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Glenn, AA9MT: 920-684-7096  
Red, N9GHE: 920-684-9097

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### Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club HAMFEST Saturday, July 10, 1999

For Information Contact:  
ECARC

P.O. Box 1867 Eau Claire, WI 54702-1867  
<http://www.ecarc.org>

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### Ozaukee Radio Club 21ST ANNUAL RADIO AND COMPUTER SWAPFEST Saturday, May 1, 1999

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Intersection of Highway 60 and County I  
Exams by Badger Examiners, c/o Gary Sharbuno,  
5119 W. Willow Rd., Brown Deer, WI 53222  
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1702 Holly Lane, Grafton, WI 53024

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<http://www.thelox.com/~sschulze/hamfest.htm>

Bill Klinkner, N9KXX  
(608) 643-6908/643-6453

Red Cedar Repeater Association, Inc.

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